

La Voce della Dante

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

September 2007

September Meeting: Preview: La Traviata Pamela Casella & Craig H. Nim

Wednesday, September 12, 5:30-6:30; Dinner prep, 6:30; Dinner, 7:30; Meeting
Headquarters House, 2336 15th Ave. S., Seattle

Our first meeting of the 2007-2008 program year will be a preview of Lyric Opera Northwest's production of Giuseppe Verdi's *La Traviata*, which will be performed by the company this November. The company's co-founders, Pamela Casella and Craig H. Nim, will be presenting this program which will feature a live performance of selected arias from the show.

Ms. Casella is a graduate of the prestigious Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia and an internationally recognized master of the bel canto method. Ms. Casella is a highly acclaimed international competition winner and has received rave reviews for her performances from critics around the world. She now resides in West Seattle where she teaches a full schedule of students.

Mr. Nim is a veteran of NYC Opera and opera companies throughout the United States and Europe. He has been an award winner in international competitions as a bass, baritone, and heldentenor.

Lyric Opera Northwest was founded approximately 3 years ago in order to inspire, seek out, and develop great singers-to-be by offering performance opportunities necessary for them to be able to perfect their crafts. For more information on LONW, including the performance schedule for *La Traviata* in November, go to their website at lonw.org.

September Italian Meeting: Flavia Corina De Saverio

Wednesday, September 26, 7:00 - 9:00PM
Headquarters House, 2336 15th Ave. S., Seattle

Flavia Corina De Saverio is the 22 year old cousin of long time Dante member Sam Ciapanna. Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, she lives in Martinsicuro, Italy, having just graduated from college, including a year at Salamanca, Spain. Martinsicuro is a resort style town along the Adriatic Sea in the Teramo province of Northern Abruzzo. Flavia will be speaking to us in Italian about life in Italy today from her unique perspective as a member of Generation Y.

Ferragosto - Dante Picnic



On Wednesday evening, August 15, we had a fabulous Ferragosto celebration at Lincoln Park in West Seattle. The weather was great, and the views of the water were breathtaking. Members brought great food to share and Sam Ciapanna grilled sausage sandwiches. The feeling was relaxed, festive, and spacious. A few members who also belong to the local Club Alpino Italiano (CAI) showed up early to hike in the nearby Schmitz Park. It was really delightful to share this day - a major holiday in Italy - with beloved Dante members. (especially nice for those of us who live near West Seattle). More photos on page 6 & 7

Upcoming Events

August Board Meeting

Monday, August 27th
7-8:30pm

Faerland Terrace, 1421 Minor Avenue

Festa Italiana

Sunday September 23rd-
Sunday September 30th
See page 8

September English Program

La Traviata Preview

Wednesday, September 12th
5:30-6:30; Dinner preparation,
6:30; Dinner, 7:30; Meeting
Headquarters House
See page 1

September Board Meeting

Monday, September 24rd
7-8:30pm

Faerland Terrace, 1421 Minor Avenue
See page 8

September Italian Program

Flavia Corina De Saverio

Wednesday, September 26th
Antipasti and Social; 7- 7:30pm
Meeting ; 7:30pm
Headquarters House
See page 1

October English Program tbd

Wednesday, October 10th
5:30-6:30; Dinner preparation,
6:30; Dinner, 7:30; Meeting
Headquarters House

October Italian Program tbd

Wednesday, October 24th
Antipasti and Social; 7- 7:30pm
Meeting ; 7:30pm
Headquarters House



From the President's Desk

Welcome to your first issue of LaVoce for the 2007-2008 Dante year. Thanks to our Newsletter Editor Mimi Boothby for her willingness to handle this very important task again this year.

Many of us have enjoyed getting together over the summer and we have some wonderful programs and events planned for you this coming year. The rest of your Board of Directors and I are looking forward to continuing our efforts to reconnect with former members and welcome new members into Dante. We have a great organization with a lot to offer and we hope you will continue to support us with your presence at our meetings and by bringing along your friends so we get to know them. If you have ideas for events or programs, or ways we can attract new members, please let me know. We certainly value our traditions but we know times change and we are anxious to continue to meet the needs of our members and be attractive to potential new members.

As we have for the past several years, Dante will be very present and active at Festa Italiana. Look for us and many other Italian organizations at the Seattle Center the last weekend in September. If you are interested in volunteering please contact our Chairperson, Anita Bingaman. I know it feels too early to think about the holidays but please mark your calendars for this year's *Festa di Natale per i Bambini*, which will be held at Headquarters House Saturday December 1.

I look forward to seeing you at all of the upcoming programs in September. A presto,

Donna Lipsky

CAI-PNW June Hike Report by Ron Riter

On June 7th we went to Lake Serene and Bridle Falls. Fourteen met at the trail head about 9:00 that morning. Some went to the falls while others crossed the stream below the falls and climbed to the lake. Our youngest CAI-PNW member, 5-year-old Ian Burnett completed the seven-mile 2250-foot elevation gain hiking to the lake and back. Most completed their hike before it rained, while four of us hiked the last half hour in heavy rain.

When Ian returned from the hike, his mom, Nikki asked him three questions: 1) what did you like best about the hike? *"My favorite part of the hike was that it was over 2,000 feet and that I got to do it with other nice people I like. Oh, and the lake was soooo beautiful!"* 2) What did you like the least about the hike? *"My least favorite part of the hike was that I kept tripping on the trail and we were high above the clouds and I was terrified that I would fall and break my head open or get killed or something!"* 3) What did you learn on the hike? *"I learned that if you do something that scares you a lot of times then you become less afraid. I was scared when we went up and over logs blocking the trail, but after I did it once then it got easier, and I wasn't as afraid. I was so relieved that I did-*

Language School News

by Giuseppe Tassone

Italian Language Program - Director

The 2007-2008 school year will start on October 2nd.

All classes (elementary, intermediate and advanced) run continuously over 3 quarters with a class break every 10 weeks. Prospective students who wish to start from the beginning are encouraged to start fall quarter. People with little or no knowledge of Italian who would like to learn some Italian but are not able to commit to the year-long elementary class may enroll in Introduction to Italian. This class is a one-quarter-long introductory class, ideal for those planning to travel to Italy. Pre-registration deadline for fall quarter is September 21. This year in addition to registration by mail, students can register online using PayPal. We also offer gift certificates available at <http://www.danteseattle.org> to give the gift of learning Italian to a friend or a loved one.

Arrivederci in classe!

Autumn Quarter Schedule for all levels:

October 2nd - December 11th—Tuesdays & Thursdays 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Location: Seattle University – Administration Bldg

The pre-registration deadline is September 21, 2007

Complete information on the program can be found at <http://www.danteseattle.org>

To request a brochure with a registration form or for any other questions call 206-320-9159. To contact the director via email, write to: info@danteseattle.org.

September Board Meeting

Remember, as a member you are welcome! Hang out with the movers and the shakers. We never stay too late and we always get something done. Our next meeting is September 24, 7-8:30pm. Mark it on your calendar. The meeting is located at **Faerland Terrace—1421 Minor Ave**, right off Pike Street in Seattle. There is free parking.

Bag handlers in Rome accused of sabotage

by Tom Kington - The Guardian
(<http://www.guardian.co.uk/>)

Travellers waiting hours for their bags at Rome's Fiumicino airport this summer have had plenty of time to wonder what was going on behind the unmoving curtain at the start of the conveyor belts.

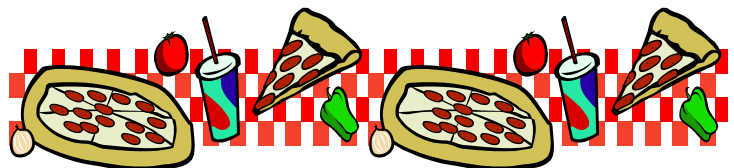
Now their questions may have been answered by Italy's civil aviation chief, Vito Riggio. Riggio has accused lazy handling staff of sabotaging the belts up to 10 times a day to ease the fast pace of their working day and to win some valuable overtime.

Mr Riggio told La Repubblica he was demanding a police investigation on the strength of video evidence which, according to the Italian daily newspaper, shows chewing gum stuck on luggage bar code readers and conveyor belts deliberately immobilised with suitcases, nails or plastic bags.

"How is it possible that at an international airport like Rome there are delinquents who, in order to work less or perhaps put in some overtime, send the whole airport into crisis, inconveniencing passengers around the world?" he asked.

Fiumicino temporarily misplaced 7,000 items of luggage a week ago, a problem that Aeroporti di Roma put down to a loss of electrical current. The company has since announced that it will invest in a better system for loading baggage on to aircraft. But waiting times of more than an hour to collect luggage were still being reported this weekend as 110,000 passengers a day passed through the airport. A spokesman declined to comment on the new accusation of sabotage by lazy workers.

Aeroporti di Roma also manages Rome's low cost flights airport, Ciampino, where seven luggage handlers working for a contracted handling firm were arrested in April on charges of auctioning jewelry, cameras and mobile phones they had pil-



Cinquecento Reborn!

After more than 30 years without it, Fiat decided to resume making a slightly larger cinquecento.

In Milan, on the 4th of July, the Cinquecento was re-introduced at an incredible spectacular studded with famous personages, and a parade with vintage cinquecentos; illustrating historic events such as the Giro d'Italia, scenes from movies and even a famous Beatles album. Amid fireworks and music, this gala event included a show where 60 people all dressed in Silver suits "become" a Cinquecento. The CEO of FIAT, Mr Marchionne informed reporters: "We are now the Apple of carmakers; the new 500 is our iPod."

The Cinquecento was made from 1957 to 1975 and to many, it signified Italy's post World War II boom. It was marketed as a cheap and practical town car to combat high levels of congestion in Italian cities. Less than 10 feet long, and originally powered by a tiny 479 cc two-cylinder, air-cooled engine, the 500 redefined the term "small car" and is considered one of the first city cars.



Torna a Surriento

Vide 'o mare quant'è bello!
Spira tantu sentimento.
Comme tu a chi tiene mente
Ca scetato 'o faje sunnà.

Guarda, gua' chistu ciardino;
Siente, sie' sti sciure arance.
Nu profumo accussì fino
Dinto 'o core se ne va...



Torna a Surriento; Who doesn't know this lovely tune? But did you know it's not really a love song? In 1902, Sorrento was a mess. There were no services, houses and streets were dilapidated. When the Prime Minister; Giuseppe Zanardelli, visited that October, he stayed at the Sorrento Grand Hotel. The owner of the hotel and mayor of the town, Guglielmo Tramontano, pressed him to install a Post Office there in town since there wasn't one. Tramontano asked two brothers Gian Battista and Ernesto De Curtis to write a song to honor the prime minister that would also inspire him to consider their needs. The next day, at his parting, the song was performed, using a melody they had written a few years earlier. As the song gained in popularity, there was nothing else that Zanardelli could do but comply and keep his word; and as a result, today Sorrento has a great post office and received plenty of funds to reconstruct the town.

Le Notizie



La Voce needs you!

Tell a story, write an article, 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. I expect an outpouring of talent. You know who you are; this is an opportunity!

Want to learn to cook Italian?

If you have wanted to volunteer to provide refreshments for the Italian meeting but were intimidated, here is an opportunity to learn a few easy ideas and recipes that will make you confident with authentic Italian food.

Plans are to hold an informal hands on class at Gini Harmon's. Time and date (during September) to be determined by the group. The only requirement is to volunteer to provide the refreshments once during the year.

This will be a lot of fun. Join us.

Contact Gini at giniharmon@aol.com or call 206-364-6834

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 the Monday before the meeting.**

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, plus BYOB, if reservations are received on the activity line by 5pm 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 Ave. S., Seattle. (map and directions on page 9)



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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Giuseppe Tassone
Language Program Director



Ferragosto Celebration - Lincoln Park, August 15, 2007

Sunset

Cam Greco, Caterina Orsi & Teresa
Hanlon

Various members shown here



MaryBeth Moser in the russet light of
the setting sun

Caterina Orsi in a sun ray aura

Francesco Greco & Sam Ciapanna
overlooking the water

All photos by MaryBeth Moser except
for the one of MaryBeth Moser taken
by Rich Rotruck.



Festa Italiana Activities Schedule

Sunday, September 23

Traditional Mass in Italian
11:00 AM at Mt. Virgin Church
1531 Bradner Place South, Seattle
Reception to follow

Tuesday, September 25

The Italian Club presents
The Festa Italiana Luncheon
11:30 AM in the beautiful
Garden Court of the Fairmont
Olympic
*Presentation of the Gill Centioli
Memorial Award to an outstanding
local Italian-American.*

Friday, September 28

"Taste of Italy" Wine Tasting
7 PM at the Seattle Center.
*Great wine, antipasto & live music
with the Primo Basso Band!*

Saturday & Sunday,
September 29 & 30

The 20th Annual Italian Festival
at Seattle Center
*Everyone is invited
Admission is free!*

Festa Italiana Celebrity Chef

The Celebrity Chef for Festa this year is the famous TV chef Nick Stellino, whose engaging personality and culinary expertise made Cucina Amore one of American television's most popular cooking series. In his new series, Nick Stellino's Family Kitchen, he shows how to make every meal a celebration. In 1996, Nick was the first Celebrity Chef to appear at Festa Italiana and he started a tradition which we have maintained ever since.

Nick's Latest cookbook is entitled *Dine In!* It contains all of the recipes featured in Nick Stellino's Family Kitchen, Season 5, as well as helpful cooking tips, photos of dishes demonstrated in the programs, and photos capturing special moments from Nick's recent trip to Italy. Nick has also written several other books many of which are currently in print.



Dante Booth needs you !

Be part of the fun at Festa Italiana. Volunteer for a few hours stint manning the Dante Booth. Anita, our Festa chair will have a sign up sheet at the first meeting in September.

Alternately, please call Anita at 206-856-0313 or email her at altayon@yahoo.com to volunteer.

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://www.danteseattle.org/DAS>

Remember that DAS must be capitalized!



In Memoriam—On the loss of a friend

Maria Edgar, born Maria d'Isidor June 1, 1919 passed away peacefully on June 26, 2007. Her brave struggle against a lethal cancer is finally over and she has earned her eternal rest.

Maria was born in Alexandria, Egypt, the second child of Alfred and Petronilla d'Isidoro. In her youth, this remarkable woman attended a German Catholic boarding school where she became fluent in Italian, Arabic, German, French and English. Recognizing her great skill, the Allied forces in WWII employed her to censor mail and translate documents.

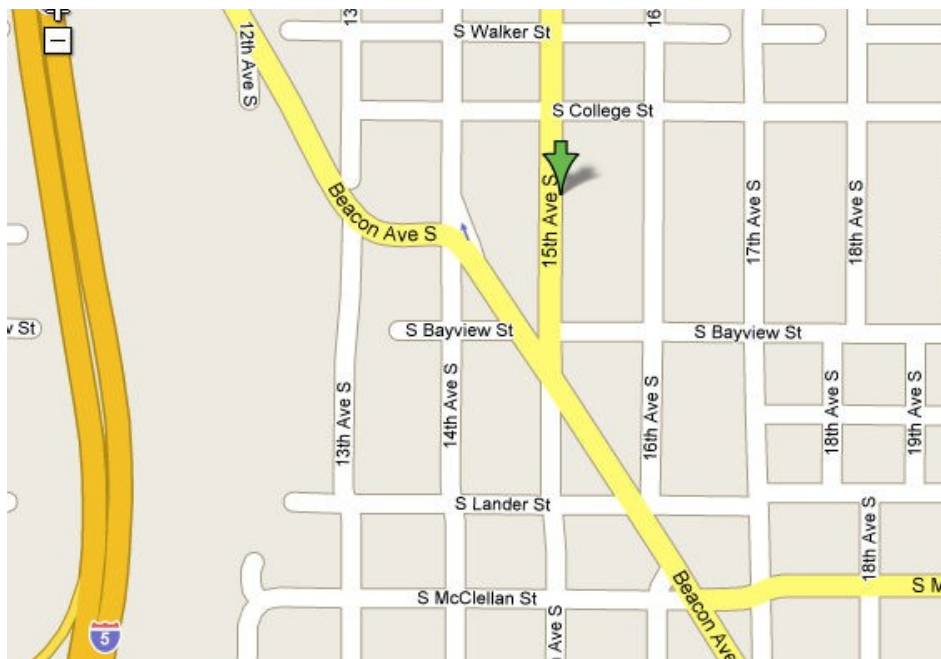
After the war, Maria sailed to the United States on the Queen Mary. She married Ernie Edgar and they settled in Seattle, his home town. The couple was blessed with three children, Bob, Diane and Donna. Later two grandchildren, Danielle and Brandon enriched their lives.

Ever committed to learning, Maria loved Art, Literature and History. She devoted much of her time to the Children's Orthopedic Hospital Guild, where she helped raise money for the hospital by sponsoring events, making toys and selling the Guild's annual calendars.

She was a much loved member of the Dante Alighieri Society, where she was always very active and ready to join in and be of help in any activity that needed her. Her delicious cookies and desserts very often graced the refreshment tables at the Society's monthly meetings.

We, her friends, will always remember her for her humor, generosity, intelligence and spirit that brought her close to young and old alike.

Maria Edgar's friendship enriched my life and I will never cease to remember and relive the many hours we spent together - I miss her terribly. Adele Lord



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

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Seattle, WA 98122

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

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