



June 2006

La Rondine

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ITALIAN CLUB OF ST. LOUIS

Next Meeting

Wednesday

June 21st

Cocktails – 6:30p.m.

Dinner – 7:00 p.m.
\$22 per person

RSVP
Dan and Jan Viele

(636) 537-5960
or

ItalianClubSTL@aol.com
by noon
Tuesday June 20

“Dr. Schalick went on to describe the Salernitan emphasis on practical medicine, from which their fame grew, as well as their excellence in teaching, translating new-fangled medical texts from Arabic and Greek into Latin, creating a famous ‘textbook,’ the Articella,”

**“Annual Report
from the Honorary Vice Consul of Italy in St. Louis”,
by Joseph Colagiovanni, J.D.
Presentation at our June 21st Meeting**

Joe Colagiovanni joins us in June to give his annual report to the Italian Club. At our June 21st meeting, Colagiovanni will discuss the recent elections in Italy including voting by Italians living outside of Italy, as well as, the candidates who live outside of Italy. He will also give us a brief overview on the activities of the Honorary Vice Consul in St. Louis and answer any questions from our membership

Colagiovanni was appointed Honorary Vice Consul for the Government of Italy in St. Louis in March 1997. In addition to his duties as Honorary Vice Consul, Colagiovanni is a Partner in Sonnenschein, Nath and Rosenthal, LLP, a leading national and international law firm. Joe is an Adjunct Professor at the Washington University School of Law, President of the Federation of Italian-American Organizations (FIAO) and member of the Italian Club.

**“The Crossroads of Medicine:
The Medieval School of Salerno”
by Walton O. Schalick, III, MD, PhD,
Summary of the May 17th presentation**

Dr. Walt Schalick, assistant professor of pediatrics and history at Washington University, lectured on the medical school in Salerno, which was probably 'founded' in the late ninth or early tenth century. He outlined three periods of the school's trajectory - early (900 A.D. - 1100), high (1100 - 1225) and late (1225 - 1400) - in which the Salernitan physicians rose to a Europe-wide reputation of excellence but were eventually eclipsed by the birth of the universities in Bologna and Paris. Referring to the medieval 'best-seller,' the *Salernitan Regimen of Health*, Dr. Schalick went on to describe the Salernitan emphasis on practical medicine, from which their fame grew, as well as their excellence in teaching, translating new-fangled medical texts from Arabic and Greek into Latin, creating a famous 'textbook,' the *Articella*, and innovating in the 'rebirth' of anatomy and medical regulation, both of which had long-lasting effects on Western medicine. It was the first non-secular School allowing consideration of medical questions that would have been taboo in educational institutions run by the Church. This also allowed experiences from Jewish, Greek and Arab cultures to be synthesized into the body of medical knowledge taught. Some of the more prominent figures associated with the School, including the fabled Dame Trotula, were discussed. The talk was highlighted with illustrations from medieval medical manuscripts, quotes from contemporary Salernitan physicians and archival research which he has done in Italy, France, Germany and England.

Schalick currently holds a joint appointment at Washington University in the School of Medicine as Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics and in the School of Arts and Sciences in the Department of History. He is an international lecturer, an author, a researcher, teacher and magician. *by Debbie Monolo*

Italian Club Honors St. Ambrose Students

At the May 19th Graduation at St. Ambrose, two graduating students were presented with awards from the Italian Club for Excellence in the Study of Italian Language. They were **Rachel Schmidt** and **Daniel Caputa**. Each student received a certificate and an Italian dictionary. Congratulations!

L'angolo del Presidente by James Tognoni

My Fellow Members and Friends:

I hope this message finds each of you doing well. Hopefully you have some exciting vacation plans for the summer. Enjoy, and come back to us safely. We have great programs lined up for the rest of the year. Make sure you come to as many meetings as you can. We miss you when you're not around. In June, we traditionally commemorate the founding of the Republic. To mark this occasion, we will have as our speaker-Italian Club member and Hon-

orary Vice Counsel of the Italian Government, Joe Colagiovanni Esq. Joe is always an interesting and engaging speaker. Additionally, we will make our annual presentation of the Italian Club Annual Heritage Award. This award is given to an individual that has distinguished himself or herself in the St. Louis Italian American community. This year we are pleased to announce that the award is being presented to Eleanore Berra Marfisi. I hope you will be able to join us for this celebration.

This October we will have elections for new Officers and one Director of the Club. By the August meeting we will have formed a Nominating Committee that will recruit candidates for the October election. If you are interested in pursuing office within the Italian Club please let me know so your name can be put in for consideration. See you on June 21st. Be safe, and be well.

Ciao, Jim

(314) 865-1005 jtognoni@earthlink.net

Announcement: New Committee Structure for the Italian Club of St. Louis

The Board has spent considerable time in the past year identifying the strengths and weaknesses of the Club and developing a plan to keep the Italian Club of St. Louis both a viable and a vital organization. Based on emerging goals, as well as feedback from the membership at the January business meeting, our first step is to initiate an important change in the organizational structure of our Club to add a number of important committees. This change is designed to give our members opportunities for greater participation, to provide opportunities for the development of new leadership, and to provide the help needed to accomplish some new and exciting projects and events that are currently under development.

This expanded organizational structure outlined below includes both current and new standing and ad hoc committees. Each is aimed at addressing the current and future needs of the ICSL as identified and defined by the Board over the past year. Levels of time commitment vary as do topic areas and skills needed. Some committees will represent an ongoing commitment and others involve working only on a special project or event. Both new and existing committees have been linked to a board member to facilitate communication.

We have been encouraged by the interest we have had in recent committee openings. Please review the full committee list below. It includes existing committee chairs, while chairs for new committees will be recruited. Please consider serving on a committee of interest, devoting whatever time your schedule and commitments allow. Contact Jim Tognoni and the appropriate board member will follow up by contacting you. Thank you for your commitment to the Italian Club of St. Louis. The viability of our club depends on all of our contributions of time and talent.

Jim Tognoni, President

FIAO/Community Liaison
University Relations/Scholarship & Awards

Marie Cuccia-Brand, Vice President for Communications

La Rondine (Editor, Distribution) Committee
PR/Marketing Committee
Website Committee

Debbie Monolo, Secretary (Recording and Correspondence)

Membership/Recruitment/Hospitality Committee
Inventory/Archives/Historian Committee

Dan Viele, Treasurer (Legal Affairs and Budget)

Reservations (Dan and Jan) Committee

Roger Gennari, Director #1 (Standing Cultural Programs)

Film/Opera Series/Seminars (Tony Perrone) Committee
Pannetone Players (Roy DeBellis) Committee
Cultural Project Committee

Gloria Etling, Director #2 (Special Projects)

Special Events/Projects/Fund Raising Committee
Community Events Committee

Tony DiPaolo, Director #3 (Monthly Meetings)

Programs/Equipment (Pete Puleo)
Meals/Benedictions Committee

Please contact Jim Tognoni if you are interested in serving on one of these committees or if you would like more information.

Going to Italy this summer?

Don't forget to look for that unusual and artistic Presepio for the Hill Nativity Walk 2006. Make sure the region of your ancestors is represented in the exhibit. For more information about history and regional distinctions of nativity sets:

<http://www.italystl.com/>

Click on the Italian Club then Hill Nativity Walk 2005

Best wishes to member

Santina Chiechio, who is returning to Italy in June after a three-year stay in the US. Buona fortuna!

FINAL NOTICE

2006 Dues must be received by July 1 to remain an active member in the Italian Club.

TERZA PAGINA

I capolavori della poesia italiana

a cura di Barbara Klein

Salvatore Quasimodo (Modica 1901 - Napoli 1968) fu poeta ermetico, grande traduttore dei lirici greci, e vincitore del Premio Nobel nel 1959.

*In occasione della partenza per la Sicilia della nostra cara socia **Santina Chiechio**, propongo questa poesia, tratta dalla prima raccolta poetica di Salvatore Quasimodo, **Acque e terre**. Speriamo che lei mantenga un bel ricordo di tutti i suoi amici di St. Louis—sicuramente noi non ci scorderemo mai di lei.*

Vento a Tindari

di Salvatore Quasimodo

Tindari, mite ti so
Fra larghi colli pensile sull'acque
Delle isole dolci del dio,
oggi m'assali
e ti chini in cuore.

Salgo vertici aerei precipizi,
assorto al vento dei pini,
e la brigata che lieve m'accompagna
s'allontana nell'aria,
onda di suoni e amore,
e tu mi prendi
da cui male mi trassi
e paure d'ombre e di silenzi,
rifugi di dolcezza un tempo assidue
e morte d'anima

A te ignota è la terra
Ove ogni giorno affondo
E segrete sillabe nutro:
altra luce ti sfoglia sopra i vetri
nella veste notturna,
e gioia non mia riposa
sul tuo grembo.

Aspro è l'esilio,
e la ricerca che chiudevo in te
d'armonia oggi si muta
in ansia precoce di morire;
e ogni amore è schermo alla tristezza,
tacito passo al buio
dove mi hai posto
amaro pane a rompere.

Tindari serena torna;
soave amico mi desta
che mi sporga nel cielo da una rupe
e io fingo timore a chi non sa
che vento profondo m'ha cercato.

In giro per l'Italia

a cura di Barbara Klein

L'Etna: detto anche Mongibello



L'Etna è il vulcano più alto e più attivo d'Europa. Le sue basi si ergono dalla costa ionica e sorreggono un cono isolato; alto 3340 mt, è la cima più alta d'Italia se si escludono le Alpi. Situato nella parte Est della Sicilia, ha tutto il perimetro di base e parte dei pendii popolati ed urbanizzati da piccoli e medi centri. A soli 30 km dal vulcano, vi è Catania, centro commerciale e marinaro, di circa 350.000 abitanti. Il vulcano è uno dei più attivi del mondo; a memoria d'uomo lo si ricorda sempre molto attivo, almeno 150 le eruzioni rilevanti registrate. Una delle peggiori eruzioni si ebbe nel 1693; in quell'occasione la lava raggiunse e distrusse parte di Catania e moltissimi centri nei dintorni del vulcano. Tra le recenti, si ricorda quella del 1928, che giunse sino al litorale ionico di Mascali e tra le ultime, quella del 1971 distrusse l'Osservatorio Etneo.

Il monte Etna è composto da moltissimi crateri, i più attivi sono situati nell'area sommitale: il Cratere N.E., il Cratere S.E., il Cratere Occidentale, la Voragine, Bocca Nuova. Le eruzioni Etnee si manifestano con esplosioni dai crateri o da bocche che periodicamente si aprono nelle vicinanze della cima, sono prevalentemente effusive e molto spettacolari. I flussi lavici spesso interessano solo le parti alte del vulcano.

L'Etna è stato dichiarato Parco Naturale nel 1987. Nel parco, che copre 58.000 ettari di territorio, è possibile effettuare diverse escursioni. Vi sono infatti numerosi sentieri e strade che, partendo dalle quote più basse, portano fino a quelle superiori.

Sull'Etna si può anche sciare. Qui la stagione scistica è piuttosto breve (generalmente da dicembre a marzo), ma le piste, da cui si possono scorgere le coste della Calabria o le isole Eolie, sono molto suggestive. Sul versante nord si scia tra i 1810 e i 2000 metri. A Piano Provenzana ci sono diverse piste da discesa, una da fondo e cinque impianti di risalita.

Per ulteriori informazioni vedi www.parcoetna.ct.it/

Buon viaggio in Italia!!!

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*LA RONDINE***

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***Celebrating
83 years of
Italian Culture
and Heritage***

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.ITALYSTL.COM/
ITALIANCLUB**

Prossime manifestazioni

FUTURE ITALIAN CLUB MEETINGS & EVENTS

**June 21- "Annual Presentation from the Italian Honorary Vice Consul-
Joseph Colagiovanni, J.D."
Presentation of the Italian Heritage Award to Eleanore Berra Marfisi**

July 18- "Why Sofia Loren Matters" by Michael Sherberg, Ph.D.

August 16- Film and Buffet Evening

September 20- "St. Ambrose"

***The Italian Club meets the third Wednesday of each month for dinner at da Baldo's*
Cocktails—6:30p.m. Dinner- 7:00p.m. \$22.00 per person**

***The Barber of Seville* at the Opera Theatre of St. Louis on select dates thru June 24th**

With its energy and brilliance, Barber is gloriously funny and pure joy as music theater—a masterpiece from beginning to end, and one of the most beloved of all comic operas. It's the back-story for *The Marriage of Figaro*, when the young Count Almaviva is first in love with Rosina and Figaro the barber helps them escape the clutches of her greedy guardian, Dr. Bartolo. Count Almaviva wants to be loved for himself and not for his money, and pretends to be a penniless student. Rosina returns his love, but she's a prisoner; Bartolo keeps her locked in his house, and plans to marry her himself. Figaro smuggles Almaviva into the house; the farce that follows is an all-time classic— and entertainment for the whole family. www.opera-stl.org or 314-961-0644