

AIHA Newsletter

A Publication of the American Italian Historical Association

An Interdisciplinary Association to Promote Understanding of the Italian Experience in America



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I wrote this message on the eve of our Orlando conference, a meeting that took us back down to Florida, with close to 100 participants, as I write. The decision to organize the conference around a more general theme that includes both retrospection and anticipation (*Italian Americans in the Third Millennium: Developments in Social Histories and Cultural Representations*) should have, we hope, jump started yet further conversations on the current state of affairs of analytical Italian America. These conversations involve, I would submit, foundational actions on the part of all members of AIHA and those interested in the history and culture of Italian America, including the commitment (a) simply to attend the annual conference as well as (b) the engagement in organizing or assisting in the coordination of the annual conference. Such conversations, furthermore, involve the constant interrogation of what we have done thus far and what

such intellectual activity might portend for the future, as we re-consider our past performance against the newer and, in some cases, provocative studies originating both from within as well as from beyond our community of Italian Americana.

With regard to the Orlando conference, we owe a heart-felt thanks to Paolo Giordano (Chair, Modern Languages & Literatures, University of Central

(continued on page 3)

39TH Annual AIHA Conference
October 26th-28th, 2006
Orlando, Florida

*Italian Americans
in the Third Millennium:
Developments in Social Histories
and Cultural Representation*

PROGRAM/HOTEL INFO INSIDE

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The American Italian Historical Association

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Angela Danzi, Secretary
Dawn Esposito, Treasurer
Nicholas Ciotola, Curator

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Florida), who assumed the responsibility of hosting the 39th annual conference, when plans for other locales never came to fruition. He has worked indefatigably (up until the end with a seemingly inordinate number of last-minute

cancellations), consistently online, in communication with Dominic Candeloro and me. In addition, we also need to recognize the various sponsors who have helped to underwrite our annual meeting.

⌘

I believe we have succeeded in our commitment to a number of aspects of centralization and what it entails. Finances, for instance, are centralized and certain accounts will remain dedicated to their special targets. With regard to our spending habits and how we categorize expenses, we have become more vigilant, better acquainted now with the specificity required by non-profit rules and regulations. We have also other modes of infrastructure to which we have attended through our re-writing of AIHA's By-laws and Constitution.

As we move forward, we cannot continue to be an organization without a home. We simply need to explore possible partnerships with other organizations, be they colleges and universities or other Italian/American organizations that have a permanent place with room to spare.

⌘

This past summer, our new By-Laws and Constitution were approved by a vote of 175 to 4 of the general membership. With that approval comes a reorganization of the Executive Council. Last month (September 16, 2006), the EC met to discuss, among other things, this issue. At that meeting, the EC decided to dissolve the current EC as of December 2006, after encountering serious confusion about the exact terms of current EC members, so that all eleven spots were vacant for the up-coming elections. In addition, the terms of all five officers expire at the end of this calendar year.

The newly elected officers will serve for two years. The eleven EC members will, instead, serve staggering terms. Those five candidates who earn the top five number of votes will serve for three years; the remaining six candidates will serve for two years. At this point, the Nominating Committee (Angela Danzi, Jerry Krase, Anthony Tamburri) is soliciting nominations and self-nominations for any of the five offices and eleven positions on the EC. To qualify for office, the candidate for an executive office (president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, curator) must have been member in good standing of this Association for at least two years. To qualify for a position on the EC, the candidate for membership must have been a member of AIHA in good standing and must attend at least one EC meeting per year and be active in the governance of the Association.

⌘

With regard to the Proceedings, I am happy to report that the CUNY/Hunter volume is at the printer! The Chicago volume nicely moves along, I recently found out, and the Boca volume, in turn, is also at the printer. As I mentioned previously, the finances for these volumes are now all secured.

The idea of a peer-reviewed, periodic publication of the Association that would be of an inter-, cross-, and multi-disciplinary nature lingers somewhere in limbo. As I have stated before (*ad nauseam* to some, for sure), we constitute, as a group, a field of scholars dedicated to an intellectual inquiry without an organic publication, and AIHA is *de facto* an - *if not the* - official intellectual voice of Italian America as a community. What I would continue to write at this juncture, I have already written in

previous issues of the *Newsletter*. Hence, I shall spare you the time and effort of re-reading.

☞

With an eye toward AIHA's future activities, we are in final discussions about 2007, which should take place in Denver, Colorado. Let me ask those of you who can, to consider the possibility of organizing the event in the future. New York may indeed prove to be an option once more for 2008. We, at the Calandra Institute are exploring this possibility. But I am confident there are other places we might want to visit in the interim. The commitment is indeed of a timely and economical nature, and it is incumbent upon many of us to do what we can to help out those who organize conferences, especially the uninitiated.

☞

Last but not least, a warm note of thanks to George for his work on the *Newsletter*. And, in closing, I would also like to thank NIAF for its continued support in our efforts, especially its fourth consecutive year of sponsoring our annual convention.

This is my last message as president of AIHA, as my second term comes to an end. It has been an intriguing experience. I have worked with seven different officers and the executive director over the past four years, and I am extremely grateful to them all. They have been steadfast in their generosity to the requisite time and dedication necessary in order to move forward the various issues at hand, which has made my work all the easier.

I am confident that we have done our best to serve AIHA and its membership at large. Now we all need to turn to a new set of officers and EC

members. As we move forward in this third millennium, we will need to support them in their work to move forward AIHA and its intellectual and creative activities. In the spirit of an old social theorist from Sardinia, AIHA is the only "organic" voice for/of Italian America, and we all need to participate in its future with constructive and gainful contributions. *Alla riscossa!*

Buone feste e felice anno nuovo!

Sincerely,



President, AIHA

AIHA *Books-for-Libraries Partnership*

The American Italian Historical Association invites Italian American organizations to a partnership in reading and scholarship! Taken together, the AIHA books include more than 200 studies of important issues. Order a set for your local college and public library and order a set for your organization or yourself. We offer a set of 17 books chosen from the following titles (based on availability) for \$100 including postage.

Only while supplies last. Order today!
Make checks payable to AIHA. Order from:
Dominic Candeloro, 169 Country Club
Road, Chicago Heights, IL 60411

AIHA Committee Accepting Nominations

At this point, the Nominating Committee (Angela Danzi, Jerry Krase, Anthony Tamburri) has already solicited nominations and self-nominations for any of the five offices and eleven positions on the EC. Following are the articles of the AIHA by-laws governing nominations and elections, as well as instructions for nomination. To qualify for office in the American Italian Historical Association, the candidate for an executive office (president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, curator) must have been member in good standing of this Association for at least two years. To qualify for a position on the EC, the candidate for membership must have been a member of AIHA in good standing and must attend at least one EC meeting per year and be active in the governance of the Association.

According to ARTICLE II. ELECTIONS

SECTION 4. Candidates for office shall be selected by a three-member Nominating Committee, which shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Council. No member of the Nominating Committee shall be debarred from being a candidate for any office. The members of the Nominating Committee shall choose from among themselves a chairperson. The Nominating Committee will present, when possible, a choice of two candidates for the office of the President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, and Curator, and at least three candidates for every other two remaining elected positions on the Executive Council.

SECTION 5. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a ballot containing its own nominations and nominations made by petition after having solicited nominations from the membership at large.

SECTION 6. Ballots will be prepared for mailing by the Secretary, and/or Nominating Committee, and sent to all members of good standing at least one month before the Annual Election date. All ballots will be returned to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee and tallied by the Nominating Committee. Candidates are elected by a plurality of the voting members. The new term of office shall start on January first.

All nominations and self-nominations were sent to the chair of the Nominating Committee, Anthony Julian Tamburri, by Friday, November 3, 2006, at the following address:

Anthony Julian Tamburri, Dean
John D. Calandra
Italian American Institute
Queens College/CUNY
25 West 43rd Street, 17th Floor
New York, N.Y. 10036
anthony.tamburri@qc.cuny.edu

The committee should meet before year's end in order to count the ballots. We thank you for your cooperation in this process.

Sincerely,

Angela Danzi
Jerry Krase
Anthony Tamburri

Nominating Committee Members

AIHA Annual Conference

39th Annual Conference

October 26–28, 2006

Italian Americans in the Third Millennium Developments in Social Histories and Cultural Representations

University of Central Florida
Orlando, Florida

SPONSORS

Department of Modern Languages
University of Central Florida
National Italian American Foundation
John D. Calandra Italian American Institute
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CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

John Marino, Honorary Chair
Dominic Candeloro
Paolo A. Giordano, Chair
Anthony Julian Tamburri
Alison Youngblood

Program

Thursday

12:00 – 5:00 PM

► Registration

4:00 – 7:00 PM

► **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING**
Queen Palm Room

Friday

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

► Registration

8:30 – 9:45 AM

Sago Palm Room

Session Organized by Joanna Clapps Herman, Manhattanville College

► Reading Panel: from the Anthology of New Essays, *Our Roots Are Deep with Passion*, edited by Joanna Clapps Herman and Lee Gutkind

Chair: Joanna Clapps Herman, Manhattanville College

Carol Bonomo Albright, Harvard Univ. & Univ. Rhode Island

Rita Ciresi, Univ. of South Florida

Edvige Giunta, New Jersey City Univ.

Ann Lanzillotto

Christine Palamidessi Moore, Boston Univ.

Areca Palm Room

Session Organized by JoAnne Ruvoli, Univ. of Illinois at Chicago

► Contemporary Italian American Women's Novels: Celebrating Twenty Years of Rachel Guido DeVries and Carole Maso (1986-2006)

Chair: Mary Jo Bona, SUNY Stony Brook

JoAnne Ruvoli, Univ. of Illinois at Chicago – “The Absence of Memory: Unreliable Storytelling in *Tender Warriors* and *Ghost Dance*”

Jessica Maucione, Washington State Univ. – “Resisting Homogeneity: Rachel Guido deVries's *Tender Warriors* and Carole Maso's

Ghost Dance”

Michele Fazio, SUNY Stony Brook – “Locating the Mother: Performing Italian American and Native American Rituals in *Tender Warriors* and *Ghost Dance*”

10:00 – 11:15 AM

Sago Palm Room

Session: Organized by Fred Misurella, East Stroudsburg Univ.

► Bordighera Authors: Folios of Poetry and Prose

Chair: Anthony Julian Tamburri, Calandra Center CUNY/Queens College

Joseph Ricapito, Louisiana State Univ.

George Guida, New York City College of Technology/CUNY

Fred Misurella, East Stroudsburg Univ.

Daniela Gioseffi, independent writer and scholar

Magnolia Room

Session Organized by AIHA

► Migration, Struggle and Desire

Chair: Stanislao Pugliese, Hofstra Univ.

Victor A. Basile, Univ. of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey – “Appalachian Italians: Their Struggle and Achievements”
Frank J. Cavaoli, SUNY Farmingdale – “Changing Patterns of Italian Immigration”
Denise Scannell, Univ. of Oklahoma – “‘Siamo assimilati! Aren’t we?’: Living between the Permanence of Assimilation and a Fluctuating Italian-American Identity”

Areca Palm Room

Session Organized by Sam Patti

► Masterworks of Italian-American Literature: Notable Novels

Chair: Sam Patti, Pittsburgh

Mark Cirino, NYU – “Why Masterpieces?: Emanuel Carnevali’s A Hurried Man and Pascal D’Angelo’s Son of Italy”

Teresa Fiore, California State Univ. Long Beach – “Italian-American Novels in Italy and the US: Reading Tips Inside and Outside the Classroom”

Carla Simonini, Brown Univ. – “Critical and Popular Evaluations of the Italian American Novel: Then and Now”

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

Sago Palm Room

Session Organized by Lina Unali, Univ. of Rome Tor Vergata

► Poetical Pieces, Stories, and Criticism on Italy, America, and Italian America

Chair: Lina Unali, Univ. of Rome Tor Vergata

Lina Unali, Univ. of Rome Tor Vergata

Robert Viscusi, Brooklyn College/CUNY

Maria Fama, writer and poet

Albert Tacconelli, writer and poet

Chickie Farella, Academic Performance Artist

Louisa Calio, writer and poet

Elisabetta Marino, Univ. of Rome Tor Vergata

Magnolia Room

Session Organized by AIHA

► Italian Americans and Education

Chair: Anthony Julian Tamburri, Calandra Institute, Queens/CUNY

Joseph Ricapito, LSU – “Reaching Italian-Americans about Italian Americans: The Teaching of ‘Italians in America’”

Judith Pistacchio Bessette, Independent Scholar – “Giovanni to John: What’s in a Name?”

Vincenzo Milione, Calandra Institute, Queens/CUNY – “Italian Americans and Civil Rights in Higher Education”

Areca Palm Room

Session Organized by Nicholas P. Ciotola, Curator, Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center

H Our Families, Our History: Genealogical Approaches to Italian-American Studies

Chair: Nicholas P. Ciotola, Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center

James M. Ragusa, POINT Chapter #3240

Mario Togliata, Calitri Heritage Project

Laura Sabatino, Italian-American Historical Society of CT

2:15 – 3:30 PM

Sago Palm Room

Session Organized by B. Amore

► Memoir or Memory as Novel?

Chair: B. Amore

Fred Gardaphe, SUNY Stony Brook

Edvige Giunta, New Jersey City Univ.

B. Amore

Magnolia Room

Session Organized by Maddalena Tirabassi, *Centro Altreitalie*

► Past and Future of Italian-American Journals

Chair: Maddalena Tirabassi, *Centro Altreitalie*

Archivio storico dell'emigrazione italiana: Stefano Luconi

Centro Altreitalie: Maddalena Tirabassi

Italian American Review: Joseph Sciorra

Italian Americana: Carol Bonomo Albright & John Paul Russo

Voices in Italian Americana: Paolo Giordano & Anthony Julian Tamburri

Areca Palm Room

Session Organized by AIHA

► Italian Americans and Cultural Identity

Chair: Dominic Candeloro, Governors State Univ.

Marilyn Ann Verna, St. Francis College – “Comparing Academic Climates
in the Homes of Native Italians and Italian Americans”

A.W. Cafarelli – “The Perpetual Immigrant: What is Ethnicity?”

George De Stefano, Independent Scholar – “A Finoich’ in the Crew: Vito Spatafore,
The Sopranos, and the Queering of the Mafia Genre”

3:45 – 5:00 PM

Sago Palm Room

Session Organized by Maria Mazziotti Gillan, Binghamton Univ./SUNY

► From Silence to Song: the Voices of Women Poets

Chair: Rachel Guido deVries

Mary Jo Bona, SUNY Stony Brook

Rachel Guido deVries

Vittoria repetto

Maria Fama

Maria Mazziotti Gillan, Binghamton Univ./SUNY

Magnolia Room

Session Organized by Edward A. Maruggi, Rochester Institute of Technology

► A Reading by Contributors to *Mia Mamma*, edited by Edward Albert Maruggi

Chair: Edward Albert Maruggi, Rochester Institute of Technology

Paul Giaimo, HighLand Community College

Joseph Ricapito, Louisiana State Univ.

Louisa Calio, writer and poet

Edward Albert Maruggi, Rochester Institute of Technology

Areca Palm Room

Session Organized by Frank Alduino, Anne Arundel Community College

► Italian-American Culture at Risk of Being Lost: Thoughts on Preserving and Popularizing the Immigrant/Ethnic Experience among Today's Italian Americans

Chair: Frank Alduino, Anne Arundel Community College

Dominic Candeloro, Governors State Univ. – "Italian-American Culture at Risk of Being Lost: Thoughts on Preserving and Popularizing the Immigrant/Ethnic Experience among Today's Italian Americans"

Frank Alduino and Frank Pesci, Anne Arundel Community College –

"Italian-American Studies at a Two-Year Institution: The

Transmission of Italian Culture Beyond the College Community"

Jerome Krase, Brooklyn College/CUNY – "Teaching Italian-American Studies Visually in the US and Italy"

5:00 – 6:15 PM

Sago Palm Room

Session Organized by Rita Ciresi, Univ. of South Florida

► Where Are the Italian-American Young-Adult Novelists?

Chair: Rita Ciresi, Univ. of South Florida

Dorian Cirrone, Independent scholar and author

Kathleen Zamboni McCormick, Purchase College/SUNY

Brenda DeMartini Squires, Purchase College/SUNY

Magnolia Room

Session: Organized by AIHA

► Italian-American Literature I

Chair: Fred Gardaphé, SUNY Stony Brook

Michael A. Antonucci, Marquette Univ. – "A Legitimate Challenge to Writers of Radical Intent: Vietnam Era Short Fiction by Dom De Lillo."

Paul S. Giaimo, HighLand Community College – "The Motif of Hyperwhiteness in Don DeLillo's *White Noise* and *Underworld*"

Emanuele Pettener, Florida Atlantic Univ. – "Ethnic Stereotypes in John Fante"

Areca Palm Room

Session: Organized by AIHA

► State of the Field and Future Directions in Italian-American History:
A Roundtable Discussion.

Chair: Stanislao Pugliese, Hofstra Univ.

Nancy Carnevale, Montclair State Univ.

Stefano Luconi, Univ. of Rome "Tor Vergata"

Catherine Waldron Merithew, Univ. of Dayton

Peter Vellon, Queens College/CUNY

7:00 PM

► **RECEPTION & CASH BAR**

Saturday

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

► Registration

8:30 – 9:45 AM

Sago Palm Room

Session Organized by Maria Elisa Ciavarelli, Rowan Univ.

► Scorci di Vita Familiare

Chair: Maria Elisa Ciavarelli, Rowan Univ.

Maria Elisa Ciavarelli

Rachel Guido deVries

Maria Mazziotti Gillian

Albert Tacconelli

Magnolia Room

Session Organized by Fred Misurella, East Stroudsburg Univ.

► Italian-American Writing into the 21st Century: Poetry and Prose I

Chair: Fred Misurella, East Stroudsburg Univ.

Joanna Clapps Herman, Creative Writing Program, Manhattanville
College and City Univ. of New York

Joanne Detore Nakamura, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical Univ.

George Guida, New York City College of Technology/CUNY

Areca Palm Room

Session Organized by Sam Patti

► Community Based Italian-American Studies

Chair: Sam Patti, Pittsburgh

Patrizia La Trecchia, Univ. of South Florida – “Building Italian-American
Community Based Relations.”

Frank Cavaoli, Professor Emeritus, SUNY Farmingdale – “Nourishing
Italian-American History/Culture/Studies through Italian-American
Organizations”

Fred Gardaphe, SUNY Stony Brook – “Italian-American Studies: From
the Academy to the Community”

Sam Patti, Pittsburgh – “Italian-American Studies: From the Community
to the Academy”

10:00 – 11:15 AM

Sago Palm Room

Session Organized by Carole Bonomo Albright and John Paul Russo

► *Italian Americana* Presents its Authors

Chair: Carole Bonomo Albright, Harvard Univ. & Univ. of Rhode Island

Robert Casillo, Univ. of Miami, Fla.
Stanislao Pugliese, Hofstra Univ.
John Paul Russo, Univ. of Miami

Magnolia Room

Session: Organized by AIHA

► Italian and Italian Americans and their Vernacular Culture

Chair: Chiara Mazzucchelli, Florida Atlantic Univ.

Joseph Sciorra, Calandra Institute, Queens/CUNY – “The Plugged-In
Potlatch: Christmas House Displays in New York City and the Moral
Topography of Altruism”

Mariolina Rizzi Salvatori, Univ. of Pittsburgh – “The Cultural Work of
Immaginette”

Michael Buonanno, Eckerd College – “The Song of Roland in Sicily”

Areca Palm Room

Session Organized by AIHA

► Italian-American Literature II

Chair: Anthony J. Tamburri, Calandra Institute, Queens/CUNY

Ilaria Serra, Florida Atlantic Univ. – “*Umbertina, Tarantella, and Vita: A
Genealogy of Italian-American Women*”

Theodora Patrona, Aristotle Univ. of Thessaloniki, Greece – “A Woman’s Voice
in a Man’s World: Marguerite in Helen Barolini’s *Umbertina*”

Marie Plasse, Merrimack College – “Reading the Italian-American Body as a Site
of Family and Cultural Conflict in Josephine Gattuso Hendin’s *The Right
Thing To Do*”

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

Sago Palm Room

Session Organized by Fred Misurella, East Stroudsburg Univ.

► Italian-American Writing into the 21st Century: Poetry and Prose II

Chair: Fred Misurella, East Stroudsburg Univ.

Mary Jo Bona, SUNY Stony Brook

Edvige Giunta, New Jersey City Univ.

Kym Ragusa, MFA Program in Writing, Hunter College

Magnolia Room

Session: Organized by AIHA

► Italian Americans: Past, Present, and Future

Chair: Robert Cassanello, University of Central Florida

Valentine Belfiglio, Texas Woman’s Univ. – “Italian Americans in the Third
Millennium, and their Future: Lessons from the Roman Republic”

Laura Ruberto, Berkeley City College – “Rewinding Migration: The Role of
Italy’s Migrant Past (and Present) and the Film *La Donnaccia*

Jennifer Johnstone, Kent State Univ. – “Creating and Maintaining Cultural
Identity in an Italian-American Community: The Lowellville Mount Carmel

Band and the Music of the Annual Mount Carmel Celebration.”

Areca Palm Room

Session Organized by the AIHA

► Depiction and Representations of Italian Americans

Chair: Dawn Esposito, St. John’s Univ.

Laura Cook Kenna, George Washington Univ. – “Mafia Representations and Sons of Italy: Mobilizing Anti-Defamation to Solidify Americanism”

Chiara Mazzuchelli, Florida Atlantic Univ. – “New Politics of Representation: *Sicilianamericanità*”

Jacqueline May, Florida Atlantic Univ. – “The Eye of the Beholder: Depictions of the Italian Americans as the ‘Other’”

2:15 – 3:30 PM

Sago Palm Room

Session Organized by Edvige Giunta, New Jersey City Univ.

► *The Skin Between Us: A Memoir of Race, Beauty, and Belonging* by Kym Ragusa

Chair: Edvige Giunta, New Jersey City Univ.

Kym Ragusa, Hunter College

Teresa Fiore, California State Univ. Long Beach

John Gennari, Univ. of Vermont

Kathleen Zamboni McCormick, SUNY Purchase

Magnolia Room

Session Organized by AIHA

► Italian Americans and the Changing Political and Labor Discourse

Chair: Robert Cassanello, Univ. of Central Florida

Anthony D. Cavaluzzi, Adirondack Community College – “Reasoned Elaboration: The Jurisprudential Discourse of Antonin Scalia”

Salvatore La Gumina, Nassau County Community College – “Italian Americans: Perspectives on their Labor Impact”

Areca Palm Room

Session Organized by James M. Wallace, Lewis and Clark College, Portland, Oregon

► Maria Montessori and Angelo Patri: a Centennial Dialogue on the Survival of Educational Innovations

Chair: Frank Merolla

James M. Wallace

Mary Beth Merola

3:45 – 5:00 PM

Magnolia Room

► **AIHA BUSINESS MEETING**

open to the entire membership

Anthony Julian Tamburri, President
Mary Jo Bona, Vice President
Angela Danzi, Secretary
Dawn Esposito, Treasurer
Nicholas Ciotola, Curator

5:15 – 6:30 PM

Magnolia Room

Session: Roundtable Organized by AIHA

► **ITALIAN AMERICAN STUDIES: YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW**

Moderator: Paolo Giordano, University of Central Florida

Mary Jo Bona, SUNY Stony Brook

Edvige Giunta, New Jersey City University

Salvatore La Gumina, Nassau County Community College

Jerome Krase, Brooklyn College/CUNY

John Paul Russo, University of Miami

Joseph Sciorra, Calandra Institute, Queens/CUNY

7:30 PM –

► **BANQUET**



Appeal for Materials for AIHA Archives



If you are in possession of publicity (newspaper articles, posters, flyers, press releases) on past AIHA events, photographs and other visual materials illustrating annual conferences, or any other items that deal with the many accomplishments of the AIHA in recent years, please contact Nicholas Ciotola at 412-454-6433 or npciotola@hswp.org to arrange for these materials to be added to the AIHA archives. Past officers of the AIHA are also encouraged to donate their files.

If you haven't yet paid your 2006 dues, here's the statement



American Italian Historical Association

2007 DUES STATEMENT

Name _____

Address _____ Affiliation _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Email _____ Fax _____

Print this page and Indicate the appropriate choice _____New Member
_____Renewal

Year 2005, 2006, 2007 (new regular members receive 3 volumes of the AIHA publications)

Indicate type of membership that applies to you:

Regular individual membership (calendar year) \$40

Senior on low income (65 or over) \$25;

Student (proof required) and European members \$20

Family (per couple) \$60

Institutional (a non-voting membership) \$80

Life membership \$800 or \$100 for 9 years

Gift - to a first time member (name and address of new member) \$25.00

Donation to the Endowed Scholarship Fund \$ _____

Make checks payable to: American Italian Historical Association or AIHA

Send to: Dominic Candeloro, AIHA Executive Director, 169 Country Club Road,
Chicago Heights, IL 60411, Telephone: 708.756.7168 Email: d-candeloro@govst.edu <mailto:d-candeloro@govst.edu>

American Italian Historical Association

Book Offer

Our proceedings include some 700 scholarly articles. Through the courtesy of the National Italian American Foundation, we are able to include a massive 500-page study guide for the teaching of Italian American History and Culture, the NIAF Timeline CD, prepared by Sal LaGumina and John Marino, and the Coffee Table format "Italian Americans – A Celebration," by Gay Talese. Moreover, our scanning project has made it possible for us to offer many out-of-print volumes of the AIHA proceedings on compact disks at low prices. We also are offering hard and soft copies of the latest AIHA volumes: (34) *Italian Immigrants Go West*, (33) *Greece And Italy Ancient Roots & New Beginnings*, and a newly-published guide to AIHA publications, *Constructing a Bibliography: AIHA 1968-2003*, Steve Belluscio, Ed.

Bookset includes 1-15 for \$100

- ___1. *Italian American Radicalism: Old World Origins New World Developments*. Ed. R J. Vecoli (1972), 80 pp.
- ___2. *Italian Americans in the Professions*. Ed. R. U. Pane, Intro. G. Schiavo (1983), 290 pp.
- ___3. *Italian Immigrants in Rural and Small Town America*. Ed. R. J. Vecoli (1987), 204 pp, ISBN 093467147.
- ___4. *The Italian Americans Through the Generations*. Ed. R Caporale (1986), 250 pp, ISBN 093467155.
- ___5. *The Interaction of Italians and Irish in the United States*. Ed. F. X. Femminella, Intro. G. Baroni (1985), 308 pp, ISBN 093467513.
- ___6. *Italian Americans: Struggle and Support*. Ed. Tropea, Miller, Beattie & Repetti (1986), 200 pp, ISBN 0934675171.
- ___7. *The Melting Pot and Beyond: Italian Americans in the Year 2000*. Ed. J Krase & W. Egelman (1987), 250 pp, ISBN 093467518x.
- ___8. *Italian Americans: The Search for a Usable Past*. Ed. R. Juliani & P. Cannistraro (1989), 304 pp, ISBN0934675198.
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Book Reviews

A Circular Journey, by Helen Barolini

New York: Fordham University Press, 2006.
210 pp. ISBN 0-82322-615-8

By Blossom S. Kirschenbaum

Helen Barolini is best known and justly acclaimed for her multigenerational novel *Umbertina*; for an anthology of Italian-American women's writings she edited called *The Dream Book*; and for her annotated collection of recipes and anecdotes, *Festa*. Her latest book, *A Circular Journey*, is called by its publisher a memoir. If that, it is a disjointed one. It brings together fifteen essays, some published in unacknowledged journals a decade or two ago, here sectioned off in three groups: "Home," "Abroad," "Return." Personal and reflective, the essays circle around a life zestfully ongoing and a career still incomplete, as they revisit origins and anticipate closure. The title's "circular journey" can be taken also to refer to a back-and-forthing between the United States and Italy, and shares its bi-nationalism with the author's next book, another collection of essays, *Their Other Side: Six American Women and the Lure of Italy*, due out in October.

When she published her first novel in 1979, Helen Barolini was a widowed mother of three daughters, and past fifty. Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, *Umbertina* became a Literary Guild selection and a popular Bantam paperback. It was reprinted in 1989; and, thanks to the Feminist Press, it remains in print since 1999 with a scholarly afterword. Its epic sweep starts from Italy in the 1860s and culminates in the United States in the 1960's. Those who know the novel will recognize its autobiographical elements

when reading the memoir, and enthusiasts of Italian-American anthologies inspired by *The Dream Book* can also enjoy Helen Barolini's reflections.

"2004 James Street" opens *A Circular Journey* at a two-family house in Syracuse and moves to a newly built one on that street where the author (born 1925) lived from infancy through her twenty-second year. Barolini adopted Henry James as a literary ancestor and has at times compared her Italy and his. Several essays explore the author's attachment to her mother and meditate on her own identity as mother and daughter. Others dramatize social unease. Her marriage to Italian prize-winning poet and journalist Antonio Barolini figures especially in the couple's position in Italian society and their travels together. In "A Fish Tale," for instance, the newlyweds are glimpsed in mist-wrapped, bombed Vicenza, its Palladian charm "canceled out by the daily difficulties in the aftermath of war." Wife and husband traveled in both countries. "The Spinsters of Taos" describes a literary pilgrimage to where D. H. Lawrence "met the New World and rests forever." In "Sicily, Light and Dark" Barolini reflects further on Lawrence when she describes a family vacation in Taormina at Easter. "A Classical Excursion" brings a reader to the springs and willow grove that Propertius called Clitumnus. On one visit to Tivoli, the Barolinis want to commune with the spirit of Horace--but find instead car-owners washing their cars in a church piazza, in an olive grove, in a grotto.

Yearning to relate to other writers, as Helen Barolini struggles to fit herself into literature and history. "Being at Bel-

lagio" describes a residency at the Rockefeller Foundation's center on Lake Como which she accepted "not as an accompanying wife to Antonio the poet but as myself, author"-yet faulting herself by comparison with Cynthia Ozick, who had already been to Bellagio and who "has had her MacArthur, her Guggenheim; she writes her novels and other works and hands them to her agent of four decades who sends them off to Knopf her forever publisher." Self-assessment is tentatively approached in "A Story of Rings," but even in her final essay diffidence gets in the way of self-recognition.

The book's main flaw can be spotted by those familiar with life-writing. These essays were written over a period of decades, during which landscapes and cities changed, relationships changed, and the narrating "I" also grew and changed. Girl and daughter, student, bride, wife and colleague, mother, librarian, scholar, widow, published novelist, grandmother, all became subsumed in the one person who is currently preparing a new book, and still addressing audiences. That present person, the current "I," should introduce herself, the current "I" gauging distance between the "then" of the narratives and the "now" of offering them to a public. The essays need not be updated; but at least those that appeared previously in literary journals should be identified and credited. Instead, though the reader is not told so, the book's last essay is reprinted almost intact from *Texas Quarterly* of Summer 1978.

Even so, *A Circular Journey* is a good read—even for the non-Italian!

Auguri!

John Paul Russo's *The Future without a Past: The Humanities in a Technological Society* (U of

Missouri P) has won the 2006 Thomas N. Bonner Award for work in the theory and practice of the liberal arts.

From Wiseguys to Wise Men: The Gangster and Italian American Masculinities, by Fred L. Gardaphé

New York: Routledge, 2006. 264 pp. ISBN 0415946484

By Mark Cirino
The City University of New York

In *From Wiseguys to Wise Men: The Gangster and Italian-American Masculinities*, Fred L. Gardaphé charts the evolving representation of the Italian-American male. Drawing from a large pool of both iconic and lesser-known texts, Gardaphé complicates the reductive notion of the mindless thug gangster by identifying the trajectory of its more recent incarnations, figures who seek knowledge and gain wisdom in more less uncivilized ways. The movement Gardaphé astutely identifies and chronicles is an optimistic turn, suggesting that this primitive archetype has expanded and become layered, allowing for new dimensions and more incisive artistic considerations, which has profound and happy repercussions for all Italian-Americans.

As with his previous volumes, most notably the superb *Italian Signs, American Streets: The Evolution of Italian-American Narrative*, Gardaphé's discussions are lucid, thoughtful, persuasive, and impeccably researched. The study also has an impressively wide-ranging scope, concluding with Tony Soprano and other present-day evocations of the Italian-American male figure, but grounded in the mythological and psychological basis of gangsterism (was Hermes, Greek god of thieves, really the Original Gangsta!?!).

Gardaphé divides his study—perhaps even too rigidly—into digestible chunks of twenty or twenty-five-page chapters, tracking the presence of the amorphous Italian-American gangster in art through canonical artists such as Puzo, Coppola, Scorsese, and De Lillo, and figures less present in the popular consciousness, like Louisa Ermelino, Giose Rimanelli, and Joseph Bathanti. Gardaphé draws from his encyclopedic knowledge of Italian-American culture and art not only to make intelligent observations about the major, obvious works, but also to argue for the relevance of those works that have been less seldom discussed in mainstream criticism.

The study's premise is encapsulated in the title, the evolving of a masculinity defined by might into one more worldly and intelligent. As Gardaphé articulates, "The end of the wiseguys and the beginning of wise men, therefore, is in developing the skills to gain knowledge and to use knowledge instead of violence to solve problems. It is by using one's knowledge, not physical force, that boys become men and wiseguys become wise men."

As Gardaphé points out, this iconic figure has become intriguingly multivalent, enabling the Italian-American male to transcend a reductive stereotype. Gardaphé examines examples of the gangster figure as cerebral, homosexual, feminine, and as a reincarnation of the ancient trickster hero figure. Tracing the allure of the gangster figure, its modernization, and its new, more complicated and multifaceted form, *From Wiseguys to Wise Men* is an authoritative study of this crucial issue.

Blood Autumn (Autunno di sangue): Poems New and Selected, by Daniela Gioseffi
Bordighera Press, VIA Folios 39, 2006.
pp. ISBN 1-88441-973-9

By Fred Misurella
East Stroudsburg University

Full disclosure first: Daniela Gioseffi and I have been close friends for many years. We hung around with the same artsy-craftsy literary crowd in college, acted in plays together, once joining a troop of student actors on a summer tour of military bases in Iceland, Greenland, New Foundland, and Labrador, visited each other's houses to talk with parents, and have kept in touch regularly ever since. About fifteen years ago Daniela convinced me that Italian Americana is a legitimate field of academic study, that Italian-American writing comprises an important and valuable part of 20th-century literature, and, very pragmatically, introduced me to VIA, Bordighera, and Anthony Tamburri as important parts of the Italian-American *causa*.

That said, let me add that I have admired her work as a poet, actress, and fiction writer since our college years and have been particularly moved by her energetic defense of feminist, anti-war, and civil rights causes during that time. She brings a passionate commitment to writing and editing that seeks to enlist literature as an emotional ally and weapon in the campaign for social change. Her poems and stories, like the best literature, I believe, have always striven to dramatize personal experience under the stage lights of public, political affairs, and *Blood Autumn*, a bi-lingual collection of some thirty-three poems with English and Italian on facing pages, makes a splendid addition to her lifetime work and commitment to social good, especially in relation to Italian

Americana. Daniela has written the original lines in subtle, intimate English; Elisa Biagini, Luigi Bonaffini, Ned Condini, Luigi Fontanella, and Irene Marchegiani have translated them into conversational Italian, enriching the bilingual tradition of Italian-American cultural heritage. In addition, the poems in the book tie together the culture's historic love of work, art, family, and working class traditions with the plain-spoken, democratic vision of Walt Whitman, William Carlos Williams, John Ciardi, and Lawrence Ferlinghetti, yielding the full-throated, energetic voice that always has been uniquely Daniela Gioseffi's own.

The poems cover a variety of subjects from old immigrant neighborhoods, through civil rights actions, to contemporary events such as the 9/11 attacks and America's subsequent war in Iraq, but the constant, recurring theme is the experience of immigrants crossing oceans to struggle through misery in America in order to become part of the nation's dream. As such the poems reflect many 20th-century American issues but always through the prism of personal experience, so we are constantly reminded that important historical forces play themselves out through the pain and successes of the vulnerable individuals living them.

"Don't Speak the Language of the Enemy" concerns Italian-American experience during World War II, placing a poignant image of a Newark, New Jersey, neighborhood ("Wilted women in black cotton dresses wait in twilight,/ calling their listless children to scrubbed linoleum kitchens.") with the ever present fact of war and the consequences to their lives in the new country ("Mussolini's/stupidity - stifling the mother tongue, wounding the father's pride,") including the specter of concentration

camps and mocking comments by non-Italian neighbors. Yet all the while parents urge the children and each other to a constant, patriotic theme that carries little irony: "'We are Americans. God bless America!'"

Other poems, such as "The Young Child" and "The House," are brief and lyrical but contain moving passages about the reality of an individual life in contrast with a hope for something better, more carefree, resulting in a young girl hearing "a sad voice, mature/ and cowering, calling from a nearby alley," as if she had to recognize the cautious, warning adult inside her—an adult who may be an aggressor or, more likely, a frightened individual she may eventually become herself.

The collection holds important longer poems as well, verse of austere, mature beauty that captures the pain of life in various, significant stages. A moving sequence of four "American Sonnets for my Father" recount Donato Gioseffi's abiding love for life, language, and family, as well as Daniela's debt to him: "Slave/ to filial duty, weaver of our dreams, you couldn't be free/to sing. So be it. You are done, unfulfilled by song except in me." A more lyrical poem, "Always Forgetting," recounts the slow, agonizing death of the person she identifies with as a woman: "Mother, you are/ashes flown upon the wind."

In addition, the exquisite title piece, "Blood Autumn," recounts the powerful experience of an aging couple engaging life in basic terms, even as the passing years lead inevitably to its end. The husband hunts deer while the wife, a confirmed pacifist and vegetarian, carries binoculars to bird-watch. A doe crosses their path, and the wife, with better eyes than her husband, points to it: "I wanted you at seventy/to win, to feel young and strong again." He aims, pulling the

trigger with shaking hands, and needs to shoot a second time to complete the kill. As the husband skins and carves the meat from the animal, the wife turns away and contemplates her own maturity, now “beyond the years of fecund mothering” and the couple's “different ways of facing death.” With that knowledge, she weeps for the doe as well as for the two of them, saddened by her husband’s trembling hands as he dresses the meat, aware that he, too, feels life’s mordant pain because he is “saddened by your necessity,/ hurt like me by autumn’s/ unbearable beauty.”

Finally, a word about the Italian translations of these beautiful poems: They are remarkably accurate, so far as I can tell, expressing in melodic, yet conversational tones the fierce, lyrical independence of Daniela Gioseffi’s poetic voice at the same time they convey the intimacy and intelligent probing of the contents. It’s a must-read, in my opinion, by a master poet, not only for students of Italian-American literature, but for students of contemporary poetry and those interested in learning to read Italian on a literary and a conversational level.

Call for Stories

I am writing a book about the American immigrant experience in the First World War (1914-1918) and I’m looking for stories of immigrant families who sent sons to fight in France. I’m especially interested in stories of soldiers and families whose attitudes toward America changed as a result of the war. Please contact: David Laskin, 18757 Ridgefield Rd. NW, Seattle, WA 98177, tel. 206-546-8856, e mail d.laskin@verizon.net.

Dagli indiani agli emigranti: L'attenzione della Chiesa romana al Nuovo Mondo, 1492-1908, by Giovanni Pizzorusso and Matteo Sanfilippo

Viterbo: Sette Città, 2005. 246 pp. ISBN 88-7853-048-4

By Stefano Luconi

University of Rome “Tor Vergata”

The discovery of the New World and the European settlements in the Americas offered the Catholic Church both opportunities and challenges. On the one hand, the Vatican had a chance to reclaim its universal mission by Christianizing the native peoples. On the other, it had to curb the expansionism of Protestantism and to take care of Catholic immigrants, in order to prevent them from yielding to the lure of other cults. Giovanni Pizzorusso and Matteo Sanfilippo, who are among the most knowledgeable scholars in the field, outline the policies that the Catholic Church elaborated to address these issues and show how the Papacy changed its strategies and goals over the centuries.

The Vatican was a latecomer to systematic proselytism across the Atlantic. The institute that oversaw the spread of Catholicism in the lands controlled by the pagans and the so-called heretics, the congregation De Propaganda Fide, was established only in 1622, namely one hundred and thirty years after Christopher Columbus’s first voyage. In addition, the Papacy granted the king of Spain large autonomy in dealing with religious matters in the territories under his sovereignty. Therefore, the Vatican concentrated its endeavors on North America and especially on the Antilles, where the colonial rivalries between a Catholic power with a pugnacious Calvinist-oriented minority – France – and Protestant empires such as Great

Britain and the Netherlands, along with a significant presence of Jews and Irish Catholics, made the archipelago a frontier for the competing religious communities.

The Vatican initially made equal efforts to fortify the faith of the Catholic immigrants and to convert the native pagans; however, by the time Archbishop Gaetano Bedini visited the United States and Canada between 1853 and 1854 to report about the conditions and problems of Catholicism there, the Papacy had focused primarily on the population of European descent. The increase in mass immigration from Catholic nations to the United States in the following decades, adding to the previous influx of the Irish in the wake of the 1845-47 potato famine, strengthened such an approach and let the Vatican hope that the Church would make further inroads into this country. In 1908, the congregation De Propaganda Fide discontinued its activities in the Americas, a move that marked the awareness that this continent was no longer a land of infidels.

The Holy See realized, however, that North American Catholics needed specific religious assistance, especially if they had recently moved to what continued to be a prevailing Protestant society. Italians were considered an immigrant group whose faith required particular attention. To this purpose, Bishop Giovanni Battista Scalabrini of Piacenza founded the Pious Society of Missionaries of St. Charles Borromeo in 1887.

Pizzorusso and Sanfilippo highlight massive unpublished records in the Vatican and other ecclesiastic archives that document the major issues concerning Italian-American Catholicism between the late nineteenth century and the death of Pope Benedict XV in 1922. These matters include the immigrants'

conflicts with the Irish-dominated hierarchy, the call for the establishment of national parishes, the controversies over civil marriages, the frequent cases of bigamy, the misbehavior of several Italian priests, and the struggle against the anti-clerical campaigns of the anarchists and socialists in the Little Italies.

Dagli indiani agli emigranti draws upon essays that the authors have published in the last two decades. Yet Pizzorusso and Sanfilippo have extensively revised and updated their previous works, merging them into an articulate and consistent narrative. The result is a new and full-fledged study from which anyone interested in immigration and Catholicism in North America will benefit.

Terrazzieri friulani in Nord America: Dalla pedemontana pordenonese a New York e dintorni / Terrazzo Workers in North America: From the Pordenone Foothills to New York and the Surrounding Area, by **Michele Bernardon**

Pordenone: Ente Friulano Assistenza Sociale Culturale Emigranti, 2005. 133 pp.

By Stefano Luconi
University of Rome "Tor Vergata"

Terrazzo workers were a prominent group of skilled migrants from Friuli, who specialized in the construction of polished floorings consisting of small pieces of cement, granite, and other inert materials as well as in the drawing of mosaics. They came primarily from villages in the foothills in the area of the present-day province of Pordenone such as Cavasso, Colle, Fanna, Frisanco, Sequals, and Spilimbergo. People from this region had learnt terrazzo techniques since the eighteenth century, when early migrants pursued job opportunities in Venice, and

subsequently developed them as they got work in Austria, Germany, the Balkans, and France. The first terrazzo workers from Friuli - Luigi Zampolini (born in Basesglia) and Filippo Crovato (originally from Sequals), both employees of Giandomenico Facchina's celebrated terrazzo firm in Paris - arrived in the United States circa 1880, to place Venetian mosaics on the ceilings and walls of multimillionaire and railroad mogul Cornelius Vanderbilt's mansion on Fifth Avenue in New York City. Sailing primarily from Le Havre, many followed suit and made up the core of the residents of "Little Friuli" between 23rd and the 37th Streets in Manhattan's East Side. In 1888, they established the Mosaic and Terrazzo Workers' Association of New York and Vicinity, a trade union that joined the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasters' International Union of America in 1919. Ten years later, the Famee Furlane, an ethnic association for Friulan immigrants to New York City, was also established. In the meantime, terrazzo workers from Friuli had spread throughout the United States, reaching in particular Boston, Philadelphia, and Washington on the east coast, Chicago, Detroit, St. Louis and Milwaukee in the mid west, New Orleans in the south, and Los Angeles on the west coast. As an old saying put it, "where there's mosaic and terrazzo, there's also Friuli." Michele Bernardon - the head of the Department of Culture in the city administration of Cavasso Nuovo - offers a broad, though hardly comprehensive, introduction to terrazzo workers' immigration from Friuli to the United States based mostly on secondary sources and anthological passages. He focuses in particular on the New York City metropolitan area, with plenty of statistical data; and outlines

community life, the experience of labor and social organizations, as well as the rise of a few workers to the status of entrepreneurs in the terrazzo business. The author also documents that the immigrants' offspring still retain ties to the native land and ethnic roots. Not only did the Friulan Americans play a leading role in sending aid to Friuli when a devastating earthquake hit this region in 1976, but the Famee Furlane has also undergone a revitalization process since the late twentieth century after decades of previous decline.

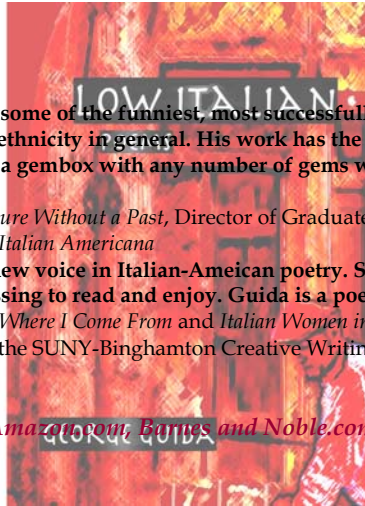
The son of an emigrant to the United States and himself a former technician who worked in Germany, Bernardon, not a historian by training, reveals an undeniable passion for his topic and takes pride in the achievements of the terrazzo workers from Friuli. Such a celebratory approach, however, does not allow much room for an in-depth examination of labor struggles between the terrazzo workers and their employers. Furthermore, an analysis of the immigrants' relations with other nationality groups and the newcomers from different Italian regions deserves additional attention.

These latter remarks notwithstanding, Bernardon has written a useful contribution to the understanding of the terrazzo workers' experience in the United States. His study is enriched by a glossary of terrazzo-related terms and by numerous illustrations, many of which reproduce photographs, records, and other holdings of the Diogene Penzi Povincial Museum of Work and Emigration located in Cavasso Nuovo. The text of the book is available either in Italian or in English.

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Organization and Member News and Announcements

► The Center for Migration Studies

The Center for Migration Studies has completed processing the papers of the American Committee for Italian Migration (ACIM) through the 1990s. ACIM was founded in 1953 as a member of the National Catholic Resettlement Council. As such it was part of a coalition of religious and ethnic organizations formed to lobby for changes in U.S. immigration law

It also expanded its work to include helping Italian immigrants navigate Italian and American legal paperwork regarding citizenship, immigration law, pensions, Social Security and veterans' benefits. A network of local chapters of ACIM's Women's Division funded all of these activities by holding annual events in communities across the United States each year. Now, casework, fundraising and lobbying activities are documented in 161.5 linear feet of correspondence, case records, legislative papers, publications and photographs. The collection has the potential to help researchers add to Frank Cavaoli's research into the Chicago chapter of the ACIM. For questions about the collection, please email mbrown@panix.com to contact its processor, Mary Brown. For access, please contact Center for Migration Studies Library, 209 Flagg Place, Staten Island, New York 10304, (351) 718-8800 or library@cmsny.org.

► Italian Ancestry of Central New York

Daughters, sons, and grandchildren of Italian immigrants keep Canastota history alive through *An American Journey – Our Italian Heritage, Volumes I and II*.

In the early 1900s, Italian immigrants arrived in this community to clear and work the black dirt from unclaimed swamplands. They came first as share croppers and eventually bought the farms (which became known as The Mucklands) that they worked on. By the 30's and 40's these farms totaled about 240 or more and graduated from early celery and peppermint crops to onion farms. These immigrants brought with them a strong work ethic and a culture rich in traditions, many of which still grace the community today.

Both books contain photos and stories written by Italian immigrants and their families that will make you both laugh and cry. The books have proved invaluable towards preserving a segment of history in this geographical area and have inspired displays relating to their content in local libraries and museums. Both *Volumes I and II of An American Journey – Our Italian Heritage* are registered in the Library of Congress as non-dramatic literary works. Web site: www.italianancestryofcny.org.

► **The Medici Foundation**

The Medici Foundation is working towards honoring and preserving the integrity of Little Italy in Manhattan.

The Foundation was formed in 2005 and has been working diligently with local and state officials as well as members of the community to negotiate a footprint to identify the historic district. The agreement calls for a historic area stretching from Canal Street on the South to Houston Street on the North, and from Bowery on the East to Lafayette on the West. The foundation is currently raising the funding necessary to complete this mission. The mission of The Medici Foundation is to preserve and promote Italian-American and Italian heritage, culture and business. For more information please visit www.TheMediciFoundation.org.

► **Louisa Calio**

Louisa Calio was honored among 25 women "who have changed America through their work in the late 60's and 70's" in Barbara Love's new book *The Second Wave of Feminism*. Calio's poem "Black Madonnas" is in the current issue #30 of *Gradyva*. Her poem "Body of Joy" will appear in *Sister's Singing* in 2007.

► **James J. Divita**

James J. Divita, retired history professor at Marian College and currently president of Italian Heritage Society of Indiana, has published a pictorial history entitled *Indianapolis Italians*. In Arcadia Publishing's *Images of America* series, the book contains 200 photographs over 128 pages. Copies will be available at the AIHA meeting in

Orlando or by sending a check (\$19.99 plus \$3.25 p/h) payable to the author at James J. Divita, Marian College, 3200 Cold Spring Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46222.

► **George Guida**

In November the Albany, New York-based performance group Literally Speaking will offer a staged reading of George Guida's short story "Resurrecting the Pope." George's poem "Washboard" will appear in the anthology *Hurricane Blues: How Katrina and Rita Ravaged a Nation* (Southeast Missouri UP, 2007), while his poem "Goliard, Goosander" will appear in *Phoenix 2* (2007). Another poem, "Brooklyn is Your Classroom," will appear in the next issue of *Transformations*. Three more poems will appear in the next number of *The Paterson Literary Review*. George's article "Learn Italian American in Nine Weeks," about teaching Italian American studies on line, will appear in *Teaching Italian American Literature, Film, and Popular Culture* (MLA, 2007), and his translation of Mario Soldati's "Italian Americans" will appear in the proceedings of AIHA's 2003 conference in Boca Raton. Visit his Web site at www.georgeguida.com.

► **Blossom Kirshenbaum**

Accepted by editor Luigi Bonaffini, Blossom S. Kirschenbaum's translation of Fernanda Pivano's "C'era una volta Beirut" (a self-contained chapter of the author's first novel) will appear in the new *Journal of Italian Translation*. The story is set in Beirut at a time when it was splendid, "its shoreline studded with fabulous hotels, those that the criminal madness of munitions makers would have destroyed some twenty years later."

► **Jerry Krase**

Jerry Krase has recently published the following articles: "Seeing Ethnic Succession in Little Italy: Change despite Resistance" *Modern Italy*, Vol. 11, No. 1, 2006: 79-95; "Italian American Urban Landscapes: Images of Social and Cultural Capital." in *Varieties of Urban Experience: The American City and the Practice of Culture*, edited by Michael Ian Borer. Lanham, Maryland: University Press of America, 2006: 155-80; "Visualizing Ethnic Vernacular Landscapes in American Cities," in *Community and Ecology: Dynamics of Place, Sustainability, and Politics*, edited by Aaron M. McCright and Terry N. Clark. Elsevier/JAI Press, 2006: 63-84.

► **Linda Mercadente**

Linda Mercadente's book *Bloomfield Avenue: A Jewish-Catholic Jersey Girl's Spiritual Journey* (Cowley Publications, 2006) was recently reviewed in *Publisher's Weekly* (<http://www.publishersweekly.com/article/CA6360792.html?nid=2287#review3>).

► **Paola Sensi-Isolani**

Paola Sensi-Isolani, together with Lisa Pieraccini, has curated an exhibit: "Planting the Roots, Reaping the Harvest: The Contribution of Italian Immigrants and their descendents to the Napa and Sonoma Wine Industry." The exhibit, which through pictures and

artifacts chronicles the development of the wine industry in these two counties, together with the role Italian immigrants have played in it, runs at the Museo ItaloAmericano in San Francisco, from October 15th, 2006 to January 28, 2007. The six-page brochure, which includes text written by Paola Sensi-Isolani as well as photographs of historical interest, is available upon request from the Museo ItaloAmericano, Fort Mason Center, Bldg C, San Francisco Ca 94123.

► **Vittoria Repetto**

Vittoria Repetto served as one of the judges for the 2005 Publishing Triangle's Audre Lorde Award for Lesbian Poetry & Thomas Gunn Award for Gay Poetry. Her poems have been chosen as "Editor's Choice" in the Paterson Literary Review for four times in a row since 2003.

► **James Wallace**

Since that 1999 AIHA conference, I have completed work on my biography of Patri, titled *The Promise of Progressivism: Angelo Patria and Urban Education*. I will be giving presentations on Patri and his work at a New Educator meeting at CCNY on October 21; at the AHIA in Orlando on October 28; at the American Educational Studies meeting in Spokane on November 4; and at Lewis and Clark College in Portland on November 6th.

Please email all member news and publication announcements as Word or RTF files to George Guida (gguida@citytech.cuny.edu).

Not Just A Personal Ad
by Vittoria repetto

New Book

Guernica Editions

ISBN 1-55071-244-6/ 978-1-55071-244-5 - 84 pages \$13 U.S.A. / \$15 Canada

Vittoria repetto is a subtle poet who has preserved her working class sensibility and her taste for the actual language of daily life while maintaining an acute ear for literary echoes. From the first poem where she places her grandparents young and in love right in front of us, to "she's doing the dishes" where in a tongue in cheek delivery she eroticizes a simple household chore to the last poem "not just a personal ad," Vittoria repetto casts an unapologetically direct and witty eye on life's complexity. These are poems that paint unforgettable moments within unforgettable scenes.



The Cultures of Migration

Call for Papers

June 22-24, 2007
Dartmouth College, NH

Conference Organizers
Graziella Parati
graziella.parati@dartmouth.edu

Anthony Tamburri
anthony.tamburri@qc.cuny.edu

Migration Studies relies heavily on the analytical and/or interpretive tools that Cultural Studies has to offer. This conference sits at the intersection of these two interconnected disciplines and is devoted to migrations both from and to Italy as evidenced over the years and examined through an array of disciplinary approaches.

We welcome papers of an interdisciplinary approach that deal with Italian emigration/immigration and any of the following fields: legal studies, history, sociology, literature, religion, economics, cinema, and geography.

Please send a one page abstract and a bibliography to both Graziella Parati and Anthony Tamburri by October 30, 2006:

Graziella Parati, *Chair*
Comparative Literature, HB 6051, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH 03755
tel. (603) 646 2088; fax (603) 646 3211

Anthony Julian Tamburri, *Dean*
John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, 25 West 43rd Street, 18th Floor, New York, N.Y. 10036
tel. (212) 642-2094; fax (212) 642-2030

Complete papers must be handed in at the conference in order to be considered for publication in the proceedings.

American Italian Historical Association (AIHA)

- publishes a newsletter.
- maintains a web-site.
- sponsors joint conferences and programs of various distinguished organizations.
- sponsors an Italian American Listserve at <http://www.h-net.org/~itam/>.

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