



AMHS NOTIZIARIO

The Official Newsletter of the Abruzzo and Molise Heritage
Society of the Washington, DC Area
MARCH 2011

Website: www.abruzzomoliseheritagesociety.org



ITALY CELEBRATES THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS UNIFICATION

On March 17, 1861, a territory divided in seven different states became the Kingdom of Italy through the valor and sacrifice of the heroes of the Risorgimento. More on the Risorgimento on page 16.



Il Vittoriano also known as “*L’Altare della Patria*” in Rome, the monument dedicated to Vittorio Emanuele II, the first king of the united Italy.

NEXT SOCIETY EVENTS:

1. LUNCH/MEETING - SUNDAY, March 27, at 1:00 p.m. at Portofino Restaurant
2. BUS TRIP TO PHILADELPHIA - Saturday, April 2. Please see details in the enclosed flyers.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Friends/Cari Soci ed Amici:



This year, Festa Italiana – the only Italian-American street festival held in the nation’s capital – will be held in autumn instead of summer. The date is yet to be set, but in April representatives from the Festa Italiana Foundation’s Planning Committee will meet with officials of the District of Columbia seeking approval to hold it on Sunday, 9 October during Columbus Day

weekend. If not granted approval for that date, alternate dates in September will be sought. So, why am I reporting this here in the President’s column of our Society newsletter? The answer is that our Society now officially is a member of the Festa Italiana Foundation. We join the two existing member organizations, the Holy Rosary Church and the Italian Cultural Society, and another new Foundation member organization, the Lido Civil Club, in the important role of directing the planning and execution of Festa Italiana. Serving on this year’s Festa Planning Committee are AMHS members Lucio D’Andrea, Jeff Clarke and this writer. As chairman of the Festa Operations Committee I will be asking many of you to assist me in making this year’s Festa a truly enjoyable and memorable one.

At its February monthly meeting our Executive Committee voted to amend the Society’s by-laws in order to add a Web Site Management Committee to the existing other nine recognized standing committees. The chair of the new standing committee will be the Webmaster, a position that already exists and in which Romeo Sabatini has long volunteered his services with distinction. Chairs of standing committees are included with Society officers as members of the Executive Committee. I will announce this amendment initiative at our general Society meeting on 27 March at Portofino restaurant. Incidentally, you’ll find information about this luncheon meeting elsewhere in this *Notiziario*. If you haven’t already done so, make your reservation right away.

Speaking of reservations, plan to join us on the Italian culture-oriented day-trip to Philadelphia on Saturday, 2 April. Imagine – round-trip travel by coach bus, tour of sites led by an expert guide and a delicious Italian food evening dinner at a fine restaurant all for only \$75! So, get your reservation in now.

I conclude my message noting a sure sign that the Spring season will soon be upon us...the forsythia are blossoming in the common grounds of my neighborhood. As we experience the feeling of renewal that the season brings, please commit some of that personal revitalization into helping our Society continue to flourish as a leading Italian-American organization in the metropolitan Washington, D.C., area.

Cordiali saluti,
Dick DiBuono

NEXT SOCIETY MEETING: March 27, 2011, AMHS WILL CELEBRATE THE 150th ANNIVERSARY OF UNIFICATION OF ITALY

By Ennio DiTullio



AMHS will commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Unification of Italy at the March 27, 2011 general Society meeting to be held at Portofino Restaurant in Arlington, VA. We are proud to announce that our speaker will be Major General Gabriele Salvestroni, Military Attaché of the Embassy of Italy. General Salvestroni will offer a brief overview of the events of the Risorgimento leading to the eventual Unification of Italy and the creation of the Italian State in 1861.

Please plan to attend this special event. Bring your appetites as well as your historical curiosity, because, in addition to the talk and a brief Society meeting, we will be partaking of a delicious luncheon prepared by the staff of Portofino. The cost of the event is \$25. You are urged to reserve early due to limited seating.

Viva L’ Italia!



Biography of Maj. Gen. Gabriele SALVESTRONI The Italian Defense and Defense Cooperation Attaché



Gen. Salvestroni was born in Roccastrada, Grosseto, on 26 June 1956.

After the Air Force Academy he went through Jet Pilot Training at Vance AFB (Oklahoma, US) and served in Italy as air defense pilot.

He was later selected for the Italian Test Centre as test pilot, and graduated

from the "Empire Test Pilot School" in Boscombe Down (UK) in 1986.

Later he was assigned to the Italian Air staff where he followed research and development activities for the air force and was responsible for the major aeronautical cooperation programs..

Promoted to Brig. General in 2005 and to Major General in 200 he is the "Defense and Defense Cooperation Attache'" of Embassy of Italy since August 2009.

Gen. Salvestroni has a vast flying experience and he is qualified on more than 50 types of aircraft.

He is married to Nadia and has three children, Sara, Giulia and Luca.

HAVE FUN IN PHILLY

By Nancy DeSanti

Come join us on a fun trip to Philadelphia, the *City of Brotherly Love*, for an Italian Heritage tour. We are planning a one-day trip on Saturday, April 2, 2011, that will include a chance to sightsee, shop and dine, with an emphasis on Italian culture, arts and food. You may have seen Philadelphia before, but we promise you this trip will be different.

We will visit the Philadelphia Museum with its "Rocky" steps. The Philadelphia Museum is one of the largest in the world and will coincidentally be featuring an exhibit on Roberto Capucci the well-known artist and fashion designer whose career was intertwined with the rise of the Italian fashion industry in the mid-20th century. We will also see the nearby Fountain of Sea Horses, a beautiful gift from Italy which is a replica of the fountain in the Borghese Gardens in Rome. The fountain is close to the museum and its Azalea Garden which should be very colorful in the springtime.

Next, we will visit the Academy of Music modeled on La Scala opera house in Milan, featuring an "open horseshoe" shape. The concert hall and opera house is the oldest opera house in the United States that is still being used for its original purpose. The first opera performed there was Verdi's *Il Trovatore* in February 1854. Today the Academy of Music is home to the Pennsylvania Ballet and the Opera Company of Philadelphia.

Next, we will see the monument at the Christopher Columbus Memorial at Penn's Landing near the waterfront,

and then we will go to see the murals of the legendary Frank Sinatra and hometown boy Mario Lanza, the famous singer, star of the movie "The Great Caruso," and the son of Italian immigrants.

Of course, our trip would not be complete with a trip to the famous 9th Street Italian Market in South Philly, the oldest and largest working outdoor market in the United States. We will have ample time to stroll and shop at the market, which features many grocery shops, cafes, restaurants, bakeries, cheese shops and butcher shops. Afterwards, in the evening we will have a delicious dinner at nearby Caffe Valentino before boarding the bus to return home.

We will depart by bus for Philadelphia at 8:30 am sharp, returning at 9:30 pm on April 2. Please make your reservations early.



RECENT SOCIETY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

The First General Meeting of 2011– January 30

By Joann Novello

On Sunday, January 30, AMHS held the first general Society gathering of 2011 at Casa Italiana Social Hall. During the business meeting, President Dick DiBuono administered the oath of office to Nancy Hurst and Joe Grano, newly elected members of the Board of Directors.



David Ciummo, who was unable to be present, will be inducted to office at the next meeting. Dick also recognized the contributions of outgoing members Vince

Ciccone, Kirsten Keppel, and Deno Reed with the presentation of certificates in honor of their service.

Thanks to Chair of the Hospitality Committee Maria D'Andrea and her able assistants, a luncheon, themed a "picnic in the park," was served. Everyone enjoyed *antipasti, salumi, formaggi, pane, insalata, frutta, dolci, vino e caffè* (appetizers, cold cuts, cheeses, bread, salad, fruit, dessert, wine and coffee). Immediate Past President Omero Sabatini presented an overview of the history, flora and fauna of the national and regional parks of Abruzzo, with specific emphasis on the Parco Nazionale. Omero's lecture was enhanced by a slide show manned by Romeo Sabatini, proving why Abruzzo is called "la regione verde d'Europa" ("the green region of Europe"). Omero recounted some personal anecdotes of growing up in the area. Everyone had a wonderful time as we "travelled" through the national parks of Abruzzo with our fellow AMHS members and friends.



MUSICAL TREAT FROM PERUGIA

By Nancy DeSanti

The couple hundred brave souls who ventured out on a bitterly cold winter evening in January were richly rewarded with a magnificent concert at the Newseum downtown. The Newseum's comfortable, modern theater was the setting for a concert by "I Solisti di Perugia" sponsored by Villa Firenze Foundation. The event spotlighted the world-famous Spoleto Festival (Festival dei Due Mondi di Spoleto) and the region of Umbria.

Among the honored guests at the January 22, 2011, event were four mayors from Umbria, including the mayor of Spoleto, Daniele Benedetti, and the Umbrian Counselor for Culture and Tourism, Fabrizio Bracco. Italian Ambassador Giulio Terzi di Sant'Agata was also in attendance, as was Carla Fendi of the famous fashion house.

Before the concert began, the president and artistic director of the Spoleto Festival, Maestro Giorgio Ferrara, gave a brief history of the festival, which was begun by the famous composer Gian Carlo Menotti in 1958. Maestro Ferrara noted that this year's festival will commemorate the 100th anniversary of Menotti's birth as well as the 150th anniversary of the unification of Italy. So the festival is planning a special Verdi concert at the Piazza Duomo in Spoleto (this beautiful Duomo

is dedicated to Santa Maria Assunta and a letter by St. Francis of Assisi is kept inside.)

The Spoleto festival is an important cultural event, held annually in late June-early July. It has become one of the most important cultural manifestations both in Italy and the world, with a three-week schedule of music, theater and dance performances. The charming city of Spoleto is an ancient city in the province of Perugia situated on a foothill of the Apennines.

The region of Umbria was spotlighted at the Newseum event, with a colorful video showing scenes from Assisi, Perugia, Spoleto, Todi and Orvieto as well as beautiful Umbrian landscapes. This landlocked region in central Italy—bordered by Toscana to the west, Le Marche to the east, and Lazio to the south—has been called "il cuor verde d'Italia" ("the green heart of Italy").

Before the concert began, a journalist named Samuel Rachlin told the audience how he ended up falling in love with Trevi, a town near Spoleto. First,, Mr. Rachlin summarized his unusual background—he was born in Siberia, raised in Denmark, was a journalist in the Soviet Union and later Russia, then lived in New York and Washington, D.C. He went on to say that now he most enjoys spending half the year in the town he discovered--Trevi. He explained that Trevi has everything that one needs to enjoy a good life—a barbershop, beauty salon, theater, shops, restaurants, cafes, delicious fresh foods and beautiful surroundings—and when one runs into friends on the street, the conversation picks up where it left off the day before. All in all, he said he had found a pleasant way of life, and no doubt some in the audience wished they could hop on a plane.

Next, the "Solisti di Perugia," performed works which showcased their talents well. This group of musicians from Umbria is dedicated to exploring the boundless repertoire for stringed instruments from baroque to contemporary. The 11 musicians played with much emotion, and the appreciative audience gave them a well-deserved ovation.

This year's Spoleto Festival will be June 24 to July 10, 2011.

This event was sponsored by Villa Firenze Foundation (named after the residence of the Italian Ambassador in Washington, DC), an organization dedicated to promoting the culture and arts of Italy.



VILLA FIRENZE, THE RESIDENCE OF THE ITALIAN AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON, DC.

When M. Robert Guggenheim purchased a stately mansion overlooking Rock Creek Park in 1942, he named the residence after his mother, Florence. Ironically, the name could not have been more appropriate when, 34 years later, the Italian government acquired “Villa Firenze” as an embassy residence in Washington. Set on 22 secluded acres near Cleveland Park, the magnificent home has witnessed a steady stream of cultural, diplomatic and political activity over the years. But recently, Villa Firenze has been infused with a fresh and glamorous new look—as well as the laughter of *bambini*—since Italy’s new ambassador, Giulio Maria Terzi di Sant’Agata, Antonella Cinque and their two-year-old twins moved into the home last fall.

While the architecture is Tudor in style, the interiors are decidedly Italian. “The house is really a meeting point of two traditions and two cultures,” says Ambassador Terzi on a recent tour. Cinque agrees, “When Americans come to the house, they love it, and so do Italians.”

Visitors are ushered into a large foyer that opens to a grand, three-story hall complete with enormous arched windows and elaborate timber beams. A large Flemish tapestry hangs above the dramatic staircase. The hall opens on one side to a formal salon with teak parquet floors and on the other to a large dining room. European antiques, 17th- and 18th-century Italian art and custom Murano glass chandeliers adorn these public rooms.

Ambassador Terzi arrived in Washington after serving as Italy’s permanent representative to the United Nations in New York; he was previously director general for political affairs at the Foreign Ministry in Rome and, from 2002 to 2004, Italy’s ambassador to Israel. While in New York, he and Cinque, the former chairman of the board of the Italian Drug Administration, lived in an official residence on Manhattan’s Upper East Side that was once home to Calvin Klein. A far cry from this urban New York brownstone, Villa Firenze, with its picturesque grounds, makes visitors feel as though they’re somewhere in the countryside rather than in the heart of the nation’s capital.



Scholarship for 2011

This year our student scholarship program, which is jointly funded by our Society and the National Italian American Foundation, will be awarding two \$4,000 scholarships instead of the two \$2,500 amounts normally given. AMHS was able to increase the amount of its contribution to the scholarship program by \$1,500 this year due to the money that was generously donated to our Society in memory of Giorgio Pittarelli by his family and friends. Giorgio, who was a long time member of the Society, died in 2010. NIAF generously agreed to match this increased amount, thus making the two larger scholarships possible for this year.



AMHS President Richard DiBuono (left), and AMHS Scholarship Chairman Romeo Sabatini, present a \$4000 check to NIAF Director of Finance Anne Drefs Kasputis for the purpose of funding the joint AMHS/NIAF 2011 Scholarship Program.

SIAMO UNA FAMIGLIA

THE MARMURAS RELOCATING TO NORTH CAROLINA

By Lucio and Edvige D'Andrea

We Will Miss You.

Will and Janet Marmura, long-standing members of the Society, will be relocating at the end of February to Shallotte, N.C. They will be closer to their son Michael and his family. No doubt that the relocation is a challenge, recognizing that they have lived in the Alexandria area for many years and have many friends. Edvige and I are privileged to be among them. I have known Will for some 53 years, when we both settled in the Washington D.C area and began our government career, working for the same agency. To a number of officers who have served the Society at its beginning, Will is a familiar figure, having served as a member of the Scholarship Committee, securing tax exempt status of the Society and

serving on the "Monongah Memorial Committee" established to commemorate, in ceremonies held in Casa Italiana, the 100th anniversary of the December 7, 1907 coal mining disaster in Monongah, W. Va. Of the 500 victims, some 185 were from Abruzzo and Molise. His charming wife Janet, was always on hand to help the Society's Hospitality Committee.

They will be missed but we have been assured that they will remain members of the Society.

In Bocca al Lupo, cari amici



Will and Janet Marmura

NOVELLOS ARE NONNI AGAIN!

Joann and Joe Novello are "tickled pink" to announce the arrival of their first granddaughter! Gianna Renee was born to daughter Laura and son-in-law Marco on February 15, 2011, weighing 7 lbs. 10 oz. Gianna gave a wonderful present to her paternal grandfather, Massimo (born in Rome with roots in Loreto Aprutino in Abruzzo): she was born on his birthday! *Bisnonna* (Great-Grandmother) Claudia Bagliere is thrilled to welcome her third great-grandchild, as Gianna joins her cousins Jack and Dominic in the increasing family.



Gianna in the hands of Nonna Novello.

BRUNO FUSCO GOING TO ITALY AS TALENT JUDGE

By Nancy DeSanti

Maestro Bruno Fusco, who just marked the 50th anniversary of his life in the arts, will soon be on his way to Italy for a two-month trip to 10 cities to judge talent competitions. Maestro Fusco, a member of the AMHS Board of Directors, is a dancer, musician and producer who trained at the academy of theater at La Scala in Milano and who has organized numerous musical and dance programs for Casa Italiana over the past 15 years and most recently produced the entertainment program for the AMHS 10th Anniversary Gala in December 2010.

Maestro Fusco, born in Naples, began developing his artistic talent at the Ballet School of the Teatro San Carlo in Naples. Now, after a distinguished career, he is returning to the place where it all began, this time as the guest of honor at Teatro San Carlo on the occasion of a May 20, 2011, tribute to the memory of Bianca Gallizia who developed many fine ballet dancers who went on to tour the world over and who was Maestro Fusco's dance instructor.

During his stay in Italy, he will be going to Terni, Napoli, Portici, San Gennaro Vesuviano, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Giuliano in Campania, Padova, Milano, Varese and Capri.



Bruno Fusco going to Italy as talent judge

During late April, May and June, Maestro Fusco will be visiting prestigious arts schools in those cities, beginning April 30 in Terni in southern Umbria, where he has been chosen as president of a jury at a school of dance whose artistic director is Rosanna Filippone. Also in Terni, he will visit the Centro Danza Umbrico with Maria Luisa Bossone as artistic director. Later on, while in Napoli, Maestro Fusco will visit arts schools under the artistic direction of Attilio Ruoppoli and Sabrina Corcione, and the Studio Danza with artistic director Maria Rosaria Vitolo. His next invitation is to "ON Stage" headed by artistic director Francesco Spinosa. He will also visit the Scuola di Danza APD with artistic director Antonio Salernitano and pay a visit to "Spazio Danza" whose artistic director is Francesco Imperatore.

In Portici just outside of Napoli, the school he will visit is under the artistic direction of Monica Moraldo. Then it's on to Capri, where Maestro Fusco will be visiting the dance studio "Sola Danza."

Continuing with his fast-paced schedule, Maestro Fusco will visit the Scuola Danza Classica Tersicoreo di Padova, and then the last exam will be June 29 at San Pietro e Paolo.

Maestro Fusco returns to his home in Bethesda on June 30, where he will hopefully have some time for rest and relaxation with his family before he begins planning a Columbus Day program commemorating the 150th anniversary of the unification of Italy. Auguroni e buon viaggio!!

AMHS MEMBERSHIP

By Maria D'Andrea, VP Membership

2011 Membership Renewal

The 2011 membership renewal campaign is already underway. You should have received, in the mail, a membership renewal letter, which includes a form to make a gift membership, and a 2011 membership renewal card. I encourage you to renew your membership as soon as possible. As a reminder, AMHS membership guarantees receipt of our very popular *AMHS Notiziario*. If you did not receive your membership renewal letter, please contact me at uva051985@comcast.net so I can resend the mailing. Alternatively, you can go to the AMHS website and download a membership form.

I am very pleased to report that, at the end of 2010, AMHS had **302 members** and that, as of mid-February, 181 had renewed their membership for 2011 and/or became new members. We (the officers) are extremely grateful for your continued support of the Society's programs and activities.

New Members

A warm welcome to our newest members: Samira Badawi, Roberta Beiso, Jeffrey Clark, Luigi & Silvana De Luca, Nicholas DiBuono, Al La Monaca, Dominic Malcangio, Cesare Pietrangelo, and Lourdes Tinajero.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

The following members will celebrate birthdays and anniversaries in March and April. *Buon compleanno, buon anniversario e Auguri!*

Birthdays

Eileen (Parise) Del Monaco, March 1; Maria Fresco, March 3; Ludovico Giordano, March 4; Gilda Del Signore, Salvatore DiPilla and Renato Sozio, March 8; Barbara Pappas, March 9; Raffaella Luciani, March 13; Mary Ann Petrino, March 14; Frances De Marco, March 15; Lucio Marchegiani, March 16; David Scalzitti, March 19; William Berl, March 20; Pam Lupo, Ruth Lapioli Merriman, Fiorenza Pasquini, and Anne Marie Roland, March 21; Giuseppe Pittarelli, March 23; Mary Katherine Theis, March 25; Lucio D'Andrea, March 28; Rial Coleman, March 30; Anna Maria Di Pilla, March 31; Eva Del Vecchio, April 1; Phillip

Fusciello and Joseph Theis, April 4; Ada Di Michele, Gay Ferrante, and Paul La Monaca, April 6; Elizabeth Chiaverini, April 9; Emidio Pasqualucci, April 11; Marco Ferrante, Sr., April 12; John Di Feliceantonio and Anna-Marie Scavetti, April 13; Dominic Santini, April 14; Joyce Del Borrello, April 18; Theda Corrado, April 19; Stephen Ulissi and Tony Volpe, April 21; Julia Conti, April 22; Belinda Sabatini, April 25; Sofia Chalden, April 26; Joann Novello and Costantino Taglienti, April 28; and Tommaso Profenno, April 30.

Anniversaries

Vince & Dora Marinucci, March 15; Gene & Kendra Swann, March 19; Ruth Lapioli Merriman, April 15; John & Lana Nardella, April 17; Tommaso & Fiorenza Pasquini, April 19; Gino & Lina Marinucci, April 24; Roberto & Bess Di Tullio, April 25; and Silvio & Lina Pronio, April 29.

Our new Associate Member, Professor Dominick Salvatore

By Romeo Sabatini

I have the pleasure of inviting Professor Dominick Salvatore to join our Society as an Associate Member. Domenico, as I knew him when we were teenagers and had become friends in New York because of our common roots in Abruzzo, is now a world-renowned economist. As recognition of his illustrious career, Villa Santa Maria (CH), the Abruzzo ancestral town of both our families, recently made him a honorary citizen. I will not list here his professional achievements-- these would read like a non-ending lithany--those interested can consult the Fordham University website <http://www.fordham.edu/economics/salvatore/> . Rather, I simply want to mention just one specific character trait of his, which, as a young man, would mark him for success in life. What impressed me when I knew him as a teenager, recently-arrived in the United States from Abruzzo, was his immense drive to achieve academically, fueled by a strong sense of attachment to his roots--always proud of being Abruzzese among his Italian friends, always proud of being Italian among his American peers. That pride, in my opinion, gave him the *grinta*, the tenacity to become the best in his field... *faccio vedere io a loro!* I'll show them, he would say! and he sure did!



Professor Dominick Salvatore

FROM THE REGIONAL CORNER

Pescasseroli, Province of L'Aquila, Abruzzo, Italy



Pescasseroli (altitude: 3600 feet, 60 miles from L'Aquila, 2000 inhabitants) lies in a wide plain amid a mountainous landscape of uncontaminated beauty in the heart of the National Park of Abruzzo, one of the first natural parks established in Italy, and a model for a controlled development in protected areas. Nearby are the springs of the Sangro River. The economy in the past was based mostly on sheep raising and wood crafts; after the unity of Italy the crisis of the agricultural and pastoral economy of the area led to a massive emigration. Later on, the establishment of the National Park of Abruzzo, founded here in 1922, paved the way to an improved economic situation, and nowadays Pescasseroli is a residential area, a great craftwork center, and an important tourist resort, both in summer and in winter, with its ski resorts, and the starting point for many excursions in the Park.



History

The area, rich in water, woods and natural caves, was inhabited since prehistory by the Peligni, an Italic tribe before the rise of the Roman civilization. In the early Middle Ages it was a fiefdom of the Counts of Celano, and then of the Di Sangro and the d'Aquino. The first mention of the name Pescasseroli is in a bull of Pope Pasquale II, mentioning a church of "Sancti Pauli" in the jurisdiction of "pesculum serulae". On the ruins to the Italic fortress, a castle was built in the 13th century to control access to the Sangro valley. The history of Pescasseroli is connected to its prevalently pastoral economy and woodwork. The little town was the starting point of one of the great "tratturi" leading to the South and crossing present-day Molise to Apulia.

Origin of the name

There are various opinions on the origin of the name "Pescasseroli". One of the most widely accepted is that it

comes from the Latin *pesculum* (= protruding rock) and *sarolum* (near the Sangro), since the oldest part of the town is exactly near the springs of the Sangro river below a high rock, on top of which the ancient castle called Castel Mancino, whose ruins can still be seen, dominated the valley. A second possible etymology, though very similar, is suggested by the writer and philosopher Benedetto Croce, who believed it derived from "*pesculum ad sarolum*", meaning "rock near the Little Sangro." Still another etymology is from "*pesculum ad Sere*" from the nearby montagna delle Serre.

Sights & Excursions

The ruins of Castel Mancino

Palazzo Sipari, belonging to the mother of philosopher, historian and literary critic Benedetto Croce (1866-1955), who was born here

The Parish church of San Paolo ad *Pesculum Serule*, very ancient (12th century) but mostly reconstructed, housing in a chapel the wooden statue of a "Madonna nera dell'Incoronata" coming from the church, now destroyed, of Castel Mancino

The baroque Chiesa del Carmelo

The Visitor Center of the Park, with a Museo di Storia Naturale and a Garden zoo

Itineraries through the 30000 hectares of the Parco Nazionale d'Abruzzo, where amid savage mountains and deep forest the Marsian brown bear, the Apennine wolf, the Abruzzo chamois, eagles and many endangered species have found a protected sanctuary

The fossil glaciers at the "nevera of Marchiarvaro" with refreshingly clear waters

Itineraries to the rocky, forested mountains of the Marsicano (2242 m)

Events & Festivities

29 June -- Feast of SS. Pietro e Paolo

15-16 July -- Feast of Madonna del Carmine

Last Sunday in July -- Lamb Festival

8-9 September -- Celebrations for the "Madonna nera dell'Incoronata"

24 December -- Midnight fire before the parish Church

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Reference:

<http://www.abruzzo2000.com/abruzzo/laquila/pescasseroli.htm>

Pescasseroli Provincia de L'Aquila, Abruzzo

Pescasseroli (1167 m s.l.m., distanza da L'Aquila: 99 km , popolazione: ca. 2000 abitanti) è situato in una vasta pianura,

immersa tra montagne di incontaminata bellezza, nel cuore del Parco Nazionale d'Abruzzo, uno dei primi parchi istituiti in Italia, modello per lo sviluppo sostenibile delle aree protette. Poco lontano si trovano le sorgenti del fiume Sangro. In passato l'economia era per lo più basata sull'allevamento degli ovini e la lavorazione del legno; dopo l'Unità d'Italia la crisi dell'agricoltura e della pastorizia, iniziata già sotto il Regno di Napoli, causò una massiccia emigrazione. L'istituzione del Parco Nazionale d'Abruzzo, nel 1922, indicò la strada di un nuovo sviluppo: oggi Pescasseroli può essere considerata, oltre che un'area residenziale, un grosso centro artigianale e un'importante stazione turistica sia estiva che invernale, con i suoi 20 km di piste da sci, oltre che base di partenza per molti itinerari escursionistici nel Parco.

Storia

Il luogo, ricco di acqua, boschi e grotte naturali, era abitato sin dalla Preistoria, e forse Castel Mancino, grazie alla sua posizione strategica, fu una cittadella dell'antico popolo dei



Peligni, prima ancora dell'avvento della civiltà Romana. Nel basso Medioevo fu feudo dei Conti di Celano, in seguito dei Di Sangro e dei D'Aquino. La prima menzione si ha su una Bolla di Papa Pasquale II, che indicava la chiesa di "Sancti Pauli" sotto la giurisdizione di "*pesculum serulae*". Sulle rovine di una fortezza Italica venne costruito nel XIII secolo un castello, per controllare l'accesso alla Valle del Sangro. La storia di Pescasseroli è

legata in gran parte alla sua tradizione pastorale e artigianato del legno (tradizionalmente la seconda attività cui i pastori, fuori con le greggi, dedicavano tante ore). Il villaggio era base di partenza di uno dei tre grandi "tratturi" che portavano a Sud, attraversando le attuali regioni del Molise e della Puglia.

Etimologia

Varie sono le ipotesi sull'origine del nome "Pescasseroli". Una delle più accreditate indica il nome derivare dal Latino *pesculum* (= pietra sporgente) e *sarolum* (vicino il Sangro), poiché la parte più vecchia del paese è proprio vicino le sorgenti del Sangro, vicino ad una alta roccia, in cima alla quale il vecchio castello chiamato «Castel Mancino», le cui rovine sono ancora oggi visibili, dominava la vallata. Una seconda possibile ipotesi etimologica venne suggerita da Benedetto Croce, il quale riteneva che il nome derivasse da "*pesculum ad sarolum*", ossia "roccia vicino il piccolo Sangro" Una terza ipotesi è "*pesculum ad Sere*", dalla vicina montagna delle Serre.

Da visitare

Le rovine di Castel Mancino

Palazzo Sipari, appartenente ad uno dei padri della filosofia, della storia e della critica letteraria Benedetto Croce (1866-1955), che qui ebbe i natali

La chiesa parrocchiale di San Paolo ad Pesculum Serule, molto antica (XII secolo) ma di recente ricostruita, che ospita nella sua cappella la statua lignea della "Madonna Nera dell'Incoronata" proveniente dalla chiesa, ora distrutta di Castel Mancino

La barocca Chiesa del Carmelo

Il Centro visite del Parco, con il Museo di Storia Naturale e il Giardino Zoologico

Itinerari attraverso i 30.000 ettari del Parco Nazionale d'Abruzzo, dove, nel mezzo di montagne selvagge e fitte foreste, vivono l'orso bruno marsicano, il lupo appenninico, il camoscio d'Abruzzo, le aquile e molte altre specie animali e vegetali, che qui hanno trovato il loro santuario protetto

I fossili glaciali sulla "nevera di Marchiarvaro" dalle fresche e limpide acque

Itinerari e ascensioni su montagne rocciose o boschive: monte Marsicano (2242 m s.l.m.) la Rocca, Colangelo, Palombo, Tranquilli

Eventi e Feste

29 Giugno--Festa dei SS. Pietro e Paolo

15-16 Luglio--Festa della Madonna del Carmine

Ultima Domenica di Luglio -- Sagra dell'agnello

8-9 Settembre -- Celebrazioni per la "Madonna nera dell'Incoronata"

24 Dicembre -- Fuochi di Mezzanotte davanti la chiesa parrocchiale

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Reference:

<http://www.abruzzo2000.com/abruzzo/laquila/pescasseroli.htm>

Pizzone, Province of Isernia, Molise



Pizzone is located about 50 km west of Campobasso and about 20 km northwest of Isernia near the Monti della Meta chain, at the southern edge of the Abruzzo, Molise, and Latium National Park.

History

Archeological findings show that the area around Pizzone has been inhabited since the Neolithic era.

During the Samnite period, the rocky area around Pizzone was part of a thoroughfare that ran through the Mainardi mountains. The road was certainly used by the Roman militia during the Samnite wars of the fourth century BC.

The first detailed records of the town are found in the Voltornense Chronicle. Pizzone was completely destroyed by

the Arab raids of 881 AD; a few decades later, between 935 and 981, the area was repopulated, with the reconstruction of the Abbey of S. Vincenzo al Volturno, and with settlers from the land of the Marsi. The villages of Jannini, Roccasecca, Cerquacupa, and Viscurri were created; some of their ruins still remain.

In 1295, Charles II of Anjou granted Pizzone autonomy from the jurisdiction of the Abbey and the village was assigned as a fief to Andrea of Isernia. After the death of Andrea in 1316, Pizzonia (earlier Latin Piczotum) was incorporated into Abruzzo Citra (now the Province of Chieti), as shown by Regesti Angevin in 1320. In 1383 the monks had to sell more land around the Castrum Piczoni in order to restore the Abbey.

According to various sources, the feudal lords of Pizzone were the della Leonessa family in the first half of the 14th century, and then the Caldora family in the latter half.



Between the 15th and 16th centuries it became a fief of the Pandone family of Venafro, and later of the Marquis de Bucchis; in 1777 the fief passed on to the Cestari family and finally to the Battiloro family, until the abolition of feudalism in 1809. In 1861, with the unification of Italy, Pizzone was incorporated into the Region of Molise, and in 1929 it became part of the newly created National Park of Abruzzo, Molise and Latium.

Feasts

December 6 – The Feast of Saint Nicholas, patron saint of Pizzone.

June 10 – The Feast of Saint Liberata.

Sources: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pizzone,_Molise

Pizzone, provincia di Isernia, Molise.

Il paese è adagiato su uno sperone del monte Mattone, a 730 metri sul livello del mare.

Il paese è chiuso da due rivi: il primo a occidente scende dai monti Forme, Iannini,

Vallecorda, e si unisce a valle al rivo di Collealto, l'altro rivo scende da settentrione ed è chiamato Iemmare (un tempo Fiumare e che attraversa le frazioni di Aramerdaria e Ommero). Lo Iemmare trae origine dall'Acquasparta, confluisce nel torrente Rienziere e poi nel Volturno

Storia

La zona di Pizzone è stata certamente abitata fin dal periodo neolitico. Ciò è testimoniato da una serie di lame litiche ritrovate nel suo agro. Lo sperone roccioso di Pizzone era infatti posto a cavallo di un'antichissima arteria stradale che attraversava la catena montuosa delle Mainarde. Durante il periodo sannita tale via assunse ulteriore importanza collegando commercialmente e militarmente i vari villaggi separati da questi monti. La strada infatti, toccando San Vito di Colli, Cerro, e attraversando il valico di San Francesco, giungeva sino ad Aufidena, attuale Alfedena. Certamente la via fu percorsa dagli eserciti romani durante le guerre sannitiche del IV secolo a.C.

Anche nel caso di Pizzone, come per gli altri borghi della valle, le prime notizie storiche si devono al Chronicon Volturnense. Pochi decenni dopo la distruzione apportata dall'incurSIONe araba dell'881 d.C., ed al momento della ricostruzione della Badia maggiore di San Vincenzo al Volturno, l'Abate Raimbaldo, feudatario della zona, decise di popolare tra il 935 e il 981 l'attuale territorio di Pizzone con coloni provenienti dalle terre dei Marsi. Vennero quindi creati i borghi di Iannini, Roccasecca, Cerquacupa e Viscurri (o Biscurri), dei quali rimangono alcuni ruderi.

Carlo II d'Angiò sottrasse Pizzone alla giurisdizione della Badia con decreto del 13 ottobre 1295 e lo assegnò in feudo ad Andrea d'Isernia. Dopo la morte di quest'ultimo nel 1316, Pizzone (Piczotum) venne aggregato all'Abruzzo Citra (Chieti), come risulta dai Regesti Angioini del 1320. Nel 1383 i monaci furono costretti a vendere ulteriori terre attorno al Castrum Piczoni al fine di restaurare l'abbazia.

Secondo varie fonti, i feudatari diretti di Pizzone furono nel XIV secolo i della Leonessa, dalla seconda metà del secolo fino al 1450, i Caldora. Tra il XV e il XVI secolo fu poi feudo dei Pandone, conti di Venafro, ed appartenne successivamente ai de Bucchis e ai Marchesano, per passare nel 1777 a Domenico Cestari ed, infine, al marchese Pietro Battiloro.

Con l'abolizione del feudalesimo dal 1809 inizia una lunga serie di sindaci. Con il Decreto del 17 febbraio 1861, Pizzone viene a far parte della Provincia del Molise, mentre con la creazione, nel 1929, del Parco Nazionale d'Abruzzo, Lazio e Molise, ampi suoi territori vi vengono inclusi.

Il Patrono di Pizzone è San Nicola di Bari (6 dicembre). Il 10 giugno si celebra con particolare enfasi anche Santa Liberata crocifissa presso l'omonima chiesetta.

Monumenti e luoghi d'interesse

L'attuale Pizzone risale grosso modo al XIV secolo quando furono aggregati ed incastellati diversi nuclei abitativi. Con l'"incastellamento" vennero create tre porte: Porta Lecina, verso

ovest, Porta dei Santi a Santa Liberata (a 500 metri dalla quale, fuori dell'abitato, si trova la Fonte Lunga) e Porta Borea o Vorea verso San Rocco che deriva il proprio nome dal freddo vento che spira da settentrione. Fuori dall'abitato si segnala una torretta di avvistamento saracena del IX secolo.

Chiesa di San Nicola

Al principio del XIV secolo risale la maggiore attrazione del paese, la Chiesa di San Nicola. La chiesa dovette subire successivamente ricostruzioni ed ampliamenti, probabilmente nel 1318 e dopo il terremoto del 1349. Nel 1419 fu allungata a destra (a sud) mentre nel 1535 fu allungata ad oriente, con la costruzione del transetto, dell'abside e della cupola. Nel 1610 fu costruita la sagrestia, nel 1794 il campanile e nel 1830 fu nuovamente restaurata. Sotto il pavimento esiste un complesso di quattro cripte. La cripta principale ha anche delle colonne riconducibili al X secolo. Tali sotterranei sono stati scoperti in occasione del terremoto del 1984.

Altre chiese



Alla sommità del paese è la cappella dell'Assunta, destinata a cimitero dal 1840 al 1889 e detta "del Moricone"; in contrada Campo è invece la Cappella dei Santi Giovanni e Paolo; fuori dalla Porta dei Santi c'è ancora la Cappella di Santa Liberata, costruita nel 1637 sui ruderi di una chiesa preesistente; infine fuori Porta Borea c'è la Cappellina di San Rocco restaurata nel 1905.

Aree naturali

Da Pizzone si raggiunge, attraverso una strada provinciale, la piana posta poco più in basso del Campitello, chiamata "Pianoro delle Forme" o Valle Fiorita, da dove si può iniziare l'ascensione al Monte Meta (metri 2.242), dalla cui vetta il panorama si estende a vasto raggio e consente di vedere ad occhio nudo l'Abbazia di Monte Cassino e numerosi

altri landmark del territorio.

Imponente è l'acero di valle Ura dalla circonferenza di oltre sei metri.

Aquila reale, orso bruno marsicano, camoscio d'Abruzzo ed altri ungulati popolano i folti boschi di faggio, scendendo spesso a valle. A Pizzone esiste un museo dell'Orso e l'Area faunistica dell'Orso Bruno Marsicano.

Evoluzione demografica

Grazie ai dati del Comune di Pizzone, ci si può fare un'idea della storia demografica ed economica del paese: 1.847 nel 1872, 1.561 nel 1901, 1.270 nel 1911, 1086 nel 1951, 551 nel 1971. Tra la fine del XIX e l'inizio del XX secolo inizia il grande spopolamento dovuto all'emigrazione. A fronte dei 328 attuali residenti a Pizzone, sono più di 1.000 i pizzonesi che vivono nell'area di Chicago, negli Stati Uniti, dove si è concentrata l'emigrazione dell'inizio del secolo scorso.

Sources: <http://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pizzone>
<http://www.comune.pizzone.is.it/indexTuristico.php>

PARCO NAZIONALE D'ABRUZZO, LAZIO E MOLISE

National Park of Abruzzo, Lazio and Molise, often cited under its previous name, *Abruzzo National Park*) is an Italian national park founded in 1923. The majority of the park is located in the Abruzzo region though it is not constrained by regional boundaries and also includes territory in Lazio and Molise. The park headquarters are in Pescasseroli in the Province of L'Aquila. The park currently includes 506.82 km² (195.68 sq mi).

The oldest in the Apennines, with an important role in the preservation of species such as the Italian Wolf, chamois and Marsican Brown Bear, the park is around two thirds beech forest though many other trees grow in the area including the Silver Birch and Black and Mountain pines. Other characteristic fauna of the park are roe deer, wild boar and the White-backed Woodpecker.

History

The idea for the Abruzzo National Park arose in the years following World War I when the municipality of Opi leased 5 square kilometres of land to a private federation with the aim of protecting flora and fauna. Over the next few years the territory of the park expanded into neighbouring municipalities until it covered around 120 km² by 1923, when protection was enshrined in law. A period of intense activity followed and the park had further expanded to around 300 km² when it was abolished by the Fascist government in 1933.

Re-establishment of the park in 1950 coincided with a period of financial difficulty, followed by a building boom which saw more than 12,000 trees felled for the construction of houses, roads and ski tracks. A reorganization of the park management at the end of the sixties heralded better times and by 1976 further expansion, to 400 km², followed at the request of villages in neighboring Molise, that were convinced by the economic benefits of the park. Today, at 500 km², the area of the park is 100 times larger than the original reserve.

Geography

The mountains within the park are Petroso (2,249 meters), Marsicano (2,245 meters), Meta (2,242 meters), Tartaro (2,191 meters), Jamiccio (2,074 meters), Cavallo (2,039 meters), Palombo (2,013 meters). These are included in the Monti della Meta. The Sangro River rises, near Devil's Pass, and runs south-east through the artificial Lago di Barrea before leaving the park and turning to the north-east. Other rivers in the park are the Giovenco, Malfa and Volturno. Other lakes are Vivo, Pantaniello, Scanno, Montagna Spaccata, Castel San Vincenzo, Grottacampanaro, and Selva di Cardito.

Animals

In wildlife terms, the main attractions of the park are the Marsican Brown Bear and the Italian Wolf. While official figures report 70-100 bears in this genetically isolated population, the declining population is actually estimated at closer to 30^[3]. The shift from local agriculture to development in Abruzzo (including a controversial proposed ski resort) and poaching, threaten the remaining small population^[4]. While Wolves were once rarer (as low as 40), numbers have reportedly rebounded in recent years¹.

The elusive Eurasian Lynx is present in the park, very rarely seen but heard calling.

In greater numbers, though no easier to spot, are Red Deer and Roe Deer, and the reintroduced Wild Boar, which live in the thicker areas of the forest. Other reclusive inhabitants of the forest include the Polecat, the Badger, the Otter and two species of marten, the Pine Marten and the Beech Marten. Higher, above the forest, Chamois live alone or in small groups.

Animals that are easier to see include Red Fox, the Mountain Hare, the Least Weasel, the European Mole, and the Western European Hedgehog. Dormice and Red Squirrel s are also quite frequently seen. Other mammals

recorded in the park are the Snow Vole, the Edible Dormouse, the Wildcat and an introduced species the Crested Porcupine whose quills may be seen on paths.

Birds

Many bird of prey inhabit the park. Most notable amongst them is the Golden Eagle which, despite living in the more inaccessible regions, can often be seen soaring over central areas of the park in search of prey such as small mammals or even sick, young chamois. Other raptors that reside within the park include Goshawks, Peregrine Falcons, Eurasian Buzzards, Kestrels and Eurasian Sparrowhawks. Less visible, but perhaps more audible, to the nighttime visitor are several species of owl, the Little Owl, the Barn Owl and the Tawny Owl. Woodland birds include the Green Woodpecker and the rare White-backed Woodpecker, cliffs harbour the Red-billed Chough and Alpine Chough and bare mountain birds include the Rock Partridge and White-winged Snowfinch. Streams provide habitat for the Grey Wagtail and White-throated Dipper.

Municipalities

The park covers 25 municipalities, distributed across 3 provinces

Province of L'Aquila: Alfedena, Barrea, Bisegna, Civitella Alfedena, Gioia dei Marsi, Lecce nei Marsi, Opi, Ortona dei Marsi, Pescasseroli, Scanno, Villavallelonga, Villetta Barrea

Province of Frosinone: Alvito, Campoli Appennino, Pescosolido, Picinisco, San Biagio Saracinisco, San Donato Val di Comino, Settefrati, Vallerotonda

Provincia of Isernia: Castel San Vincenzo, Filignano, Pizzone, Rocchetta a Volturno, Scapoli

Source: Wikipedia

Immagini del Parco



A NEW PUBLICATION, "Abruzzo Magazine"

An Invitation

By Lucio D'Andrea

I have been notified by Paolo Sola, with the Editorial staff of the monthly newspaper "Abruzzo nel Mondo", which some of us have subscribed to, that the newspaper has ceased publication. Signor Sola, in collaboration with another editorial staff member, Alessia Ferrara, has launched a new magazine called "Abruzzo Magazine", a periodical which focuses on Abruzzo emigration reaching out to Abruzzesi societies located in the world.

I have received complimentary copies of the new periodical and I find it quite informative, offering articles, on Abruzzesi that have emigrated to Canada, Brazil, Venezuela including an article on the participation of Abruzzesi attending the NIAF Gala last October.

Signor Sola invites members of our Society, who read Italian, to subscribe to the new magazine. If interested, contact:

Associazione "Nuovo Abruzzo"

Via Palermo, 41

65122 Pescara, Italy; e-mail: abruzzomagazine@gmail.com



Little Italy Becomes Littler Italy

From Italy Magazine, sent by Nancy DeSanti

Mar 02, 2011 – by Natalie Aldem

The latest United States Census has found that not a single resident in New York's Little Italy was born in Italy.

New York's historic district is getting "littler" by the year. Back in 1950, almost 50% of the neighborhood's residents self-identified as Italian –American. 60 years later, that percentage had fallen to 5%.

Mulberry and Grand, the historic streets that comprise the heart of Little Italy are still lined with Italian cafes, restaurants and

specialty shops, but the zone's boundaries are shrinking. In March, New York City's Planning Commission is expected to confine Little Italy's official borders to 2 square blocks, down from 50 square blocks the neighborhood once spanned.

Little Italy was once home to the highest concentration of Italian immigrants in the United States. But even as the demographics change, the neighborhood is still the heart of Italian culture in New York. A recently won battle to preserve the Feast of San Gennaro will ensure that the tradition continues.



Sanremo incorona Roberto Vecchioni con *Chiamami ancora amore*

Secondi i Modà con Emma con *Arriverà*, davanti ad Al Bano.

Sono stati 12 milioni 136 mila, pari a uno share del 52.12% gli spettatori della finale del festival di Sanremo vinto da Roberto Vecchioni con *Chiamami ancora amore*. La media ponderata dell'ultima serata risulta di poco inferiore a quella del festival 2010 di Antonella Clerici (53.21%) e di quella dell'edizione 2009 di Paolo Bonolis (54.24%).



Gianni Morandi, center, with his team of presenters.

E' stato un festival che ha unito l'Italia ogni sera c'era qualche elemento di unione voglio dedicare questa vittoria al popolo italiano e alle donne".

Roberto Vecchioni commenta così la sua vittoria al festival di Sanremo. Un risultato importante che, insieme all'affermazione di Raphael Gualazzi nei Giovani, consegna questa edizione nel segno della qualità. E' confortante che un esponente storico della canzone d'autore si sia imposto con una bella canzone con un testo importante, davanti a due campioni del pop giovane come i Modà con Emma e a uno storico specialista del festival come Al Bano. Le correzioni apportate al meccanismo di votazione hanno funzionato, interrompendo il dominio del talent.

La serata finale, naturalmente a parte la gara, è stata dominata da Luca e Paolo, davvero i protagonisti del festival. Non hanno sbagliato un colpo: hanno messo in scena una piccola commedia nella commedia, che ha coinvolto perfino i tecnici della Rai e, attraverso gli sforti a Morandi, ha creato un controcanto alla 'cerimonia' della gara. Sono stati graffianti con la sinistra, affettuosi ed emozionati sull'asse Genova-Napoli con Massimo Ranieri, hanno accelerato il ritmo con battute estemporanee (da antologia: "è possibile che in questo paese non si possa dire una cosa senza dover essere bipartisan? io penso ai c... miei"), bravi nel rendere omaggio a Cochi e Renato.

Anche nell'ultima sera hanno confermato di essere una grande risorsa per la tv italiana. Gianni Morandi è sembrato a suo agio in mezzo alla gara, si è fatto bombardare da Luca e Paolo, è stato affettuoso con i suoi colleghi, ha finalmente cantato in un emozionante duetto con Massimo Ranieri scambiandosi successi e aneddoti di un'amicizia che dura dal 1966, ha giustamente gioito della vittoria del suo amico Roberto Vecchioni.

Belen, che ha cantato con il papà Gustavo, ed Elisabetta Canalis, anche in veste di sexy ballerina, sono rimaste un po' in un ruolo di contorno in una maratona che ha avuto ampi spazi di promozione delle nuove produzioni di Raiuno. Ma è difficile evitare di ricordare che i risultati di questa edizione, i due vincitori hanno vinto anche il premio della Critica: Vecchioni e Gualazzi che vincono con il triplete (mettendo insieme anche Critica e Radio) è una svolta nella storia del festival.



Roberto Vecchioni with Belen Rodriguez , left, and Elisabetta Canalis

Lyrics to Chiamami Ancora Amore :

E per la barca che è volata in cielo
che i bimbi ancora stavano a giocare
che gli avrei regalato il mare intero
pur di vedermeli arrivare

Per il poeta che non può cantare
per l'operaio che non ha più il suo lavoro
per chi ha vent'anni e se ne sta a morire
in un deserto come in un porcile
e per tutti i ragazzi e le ragazze
che difendono un libro, un libro vero
così belli a gridare nelle piazze
perché stanno uccidendo il pensiero

per il bastardo che sta sempre al sole
per il vigliacco che nasconde il cuore
per la nostra memoria gettata al vento
da questi signori del dolore

Chiamami ancora amore
Chiamami sempre amore
Che questa maledetta notte
dovrà pur finire
perché la riempiamo noi da qui
di musica e di parole

Chiamami ancora amore
Chiamami sempre amore
In questo disperato sogno
tra il silenzio e il tuono
difendi questa umanità
anche restasse un solo uomo

Chiamami ancora amore
Chiamami ancora amore
Chiamami sempre amore

Perché le idee sono come farfalle
che non puoi togliergli le ali
perché le idee sono come le stelle
che non le spengono i temporali
perché le idee sono voci di madre
che credevano di avere perso
e sono come il sorriso di Dio
in questo sputo di universo

Chiamami ancora amore
Chiamami sempre amore
Che questa maledetta notte
dovrà pur finire
perché la riempiamo noi da qui
di musica e parole

Chiamami ancora amore
Chiamami sempre amore
Continua a scrivere la vita
tra il silenzio e il tuono
difendi questa umanità
che è così vera in ogni uomo

Chiamami ancora amore.....

IL RISORGIMENTO ITALIANO

Il Risorgimento, or "The Resurgence" was the political and social movement that agglomerated different states of the Italian peninsula into the single state of Italy in the 19th century. Despite a lack of consensus on the exact dates for the beginning and end of this period, many scholars agree that the process began in 1815 with the Congress of Vienna and the end of Napoleonic rule, and ended sometime around 1871 with the Franco-Prussian War. The last *città irredente* however, did not join the Kingdom of Italy until after World War I.



Italy's map after the Congress of Vienna, 1815

Roots of the Risorgimento

The Risorgimento's roots lie in 18th-century Italian culture in the works of such people as Ludovico Antonio Muratori, Vittorio, and Antonio Genovesi. Italy had not been a single political unit since the fall of the Western Roman Empire in the 5th cent., and from the 16th through the 18th cent. foreign domination or influence was virtually complete. During the French Revolutionary Wars and the period dominated by Napoleon I, the temporary expulsion of Austrian and other repressive regimes and the formation of new states in Italy encouraged hopes for unification.

Early Years and Factions

Secret societies such as the Carbonari appeared and carried on revolutionary activity after the restoration of the old order by the Congress of Vienna (1814–15). The Carbonari engineered uprisings in the Two Sicilies (1820) and in the kingdom of Sardinia (1821). Despite severe reprisals inspired by the *Holy*

Alliance, new uprisings occurred in 1831 in the Papal States, Modena, and Parma. Italian literature of this period, especially the novels of Alessandro Manzoni and the marchese d'Azeglio and the poetry of Ugo Foscolo and Giacomo Leopardi, did much to stimulate Italian nationalism.

The Risorgimento was primarily a movement of the middle class and the nobility; since economic issues were virtually ignored, the peasantry remained indifferent to its ideals. Political activity was carried on by three groups. Giuseppe Mazzini led the radical faction through his secret society Giovine Italia [young Italy], founded in 1831. Its program was republican and anticlerical; it vaguely alluded to social and economic reforms. The conservative and clerical elements among the nationalists generally advocated a federation of Italian states under the presidency of the pope. The moderates—the propertied bourgeoisie and the north Italian promoters of industry—favored unification of Italy under a king of the house of Savoy. This monarch, as it later turned out, was Victor Emmanuel II, of Sardinia.



Vittorio Emanuele II

First Independence War

In 1848, revolutionary riots broke out in numerous places of Italy, as well in many other parts of Europe. Charles Albert in Piedmont and Leopold II in the Grand Duchy of Tuscany had been forced to make concessions to the democrats. When Vienna was also in revolt, both Milan and Venice, the main cities of the Kingdom of Lombardy-Venetia under Austrian rule, revolted. Sicily, apart Messina, expelled the Bourbon armies. Charles II of Bourbon also was compelled to leave the Duchy of Parma.

The Kingdom of Sardinia decided to exploit the apparently favourable moment, and declared war on Austria, with the alliance of the Papal States and the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. Italian independence leaders like Giuseppe Garibaldi and Giuseppe Mazzini returned to Italy to take part in the events, but were rather coldly welcomed by the House of Savoy, who aimed to maintain a moderate and pro-governative character to the war.



Giuseppe Garibaldi

The Piedmontese army was composed of two corps and a reserve division, for a total of 12,000 troops. Artillery and cavalry were the best units. On March 21 the Grand Duke of Tuscany also declared his entrance in the war against Austria, with a contingent of 6,700 men. The Papal Army had a similar sized force, backed by numerous volunteers. On 25 the vanguard of the II Piedmontese Corps entered Milan; two days later Pavia was also freed.

After an initial successful campaign, with the victories at Goito and Peschiera del Garda, Pope Pius IX, fearing possible expansions of Piedmont in case of victory, recalled his troops. The Kingdom of the Two Sicilies also retired, but the general Guglielmo Pepe refused to go back to Naples and went to Venice to protect it against the Austrian counter-offensive. King Ferdinand II's behavior was mainly due to the ambiguous conduct of Charles Albert of Piedmont, who had not clearly refused the proposal to obtain the Sicilian crown received from representatives of the rebellious island.

Left alone, Piedmont was defeated by the Austrians at Custoza and forced to accept an armistice on August 9.

The aftermath of the war was complex, but in general saw a return to the preexisting *status quo*. In 1849 in Florence, Leopold II abandoned the town, which was ruled by a provisional government; but the Grand Duke later returned. In Rome, the Roman republic was declared (with Giuseppe Mazzini as one of the *triumviri*). Rome was attacked by French troops, and Giuseppe Garibaldi's forces, after a fierce resistance, had to surrender. the republic being abolished with the return of the pope. Venice, after an extraordinary long resistance, had also to surrender to the Austrians due to famine and a cholera epidemic.

The second independence war

The second independence war, also known as Austro-Sardinian War, was declared by the Kingdom of Sardinia, in 1859, with the alliance of France.

In 1859 Emperor Napoleon III and Camillo Cavour, the prime minister of the Kingdom of Sardinia, signed a treaty of alliance against Austria: France would help Sardinia to fight against Austria and Sardinia, in return, would give Nice and Savoy to France. In the same year Austria started a war with Sardinia. French and Sardinian armies defeated the Austrians in the battles of Palestro (30 May), Montebello, Magenta (4 June) and Solferino (21 June) and took Milan. The German states, however, forced Napoleon to stop the war, and he signed an armistice with Austria at Villafranca. The Kingdom of Lombardy (Milan was its capital) was transferred to France, which gave it to Sardinia.



After the truce of Villafranca rebellions started in northern Italian states. Grand Duke Leopold II of Tuscany and duke Francis V of Modena escaped from their countries. People of Tuscany, Modena and Parma invited king Victor Emmanuel II of Sardinia to rule over them. Napoleon III was afraid of being regarded as a supporter of a revolution, so he forced

Victor Emmanuel to relinquish the power over those states; however, in 1860 Cavour convinced the emperor to change his mind. Tuscany, Modena, Bologna and Parma decided in a plebiscite to join Sardinia.

In 1860 the Kingdom of Two Sicilies was invaded by a volunteer army, known as I Mille, led by Giuseppe Garibaldi's and financed by Piedmont and the United Kingdom. In the subsequent campaign he defeated the army of the Sicilian king, Ferdinand II, in the battles of Calatafimi and Volturno. In 1861 a plebiscite in Naples and on Sicily decided for unification to Sardinia.

The fall of Gaeta brought the unification movement to the brink of fruition — only Rome and Veneto remained to be added. On February 18, 1861, Victor Emmanuel assembled the deputies of the first Italian Parliament in Turin. On March 17, 1861, the Parliament proclaimed Victor Emmanuel II King of Italy, and on March 27, 1861 Rome was declared Capital of Italy, despite that it was not even in the new Kingdom. Three months later Cavour, having seen his life's work nearly complete, died. When he was given the last rites, Cavour purportedly said: "Italy is made. All is safe."



The Third Independence war and the capture of Rome

The Third Independence War was declared by the new Kingdom of Italy against the Austrian Empire, in 1866, with the alliance of the Kingdom of Prussia.

In 1866 Italy signed alliance with Prussia against Austria. During the ensuing Austro-Prussian War, Archduke Albert of Austria defeated Italian forces in the battle of Custoza; however, thanks to Prussian victory over Austria, Italy was able to gain the Veneto in the peace that Austria and Italy signed in Vienna.

In 1870, when Prussia defeated the Second French Empire during the Franco-Prussian War, Italian forces took advantage

of the repatriation of the French troops from Rome and overwhelmed what remained of the Papal States. Rome was captured on September 20, 1870, and subsequently became the capital of Italy.

Sources: Wikipedia



Battle of Solferino



Battle of Calatafimi



Garibaldi and Vittorio Emanuele II meet at Teano



The Abruzzo and Molise Heritage Society

of the Washington, D.C. Area



Draft of Proposed AMHS Program for 2011 (Some events are subject to change)

Sunday, January 30, 2010	<u>General Meeting - Presentation:</u> Abruzzo la tua natura, A presentation on the Parco Nazionale d'Abruzzo and an overview on other National Parks in Abruzzo.
Sunday, March 27, 2011	<u>General Meeting - Presentation:</u> The 150 Anniversary of Italy's unification, at Portofino restaurant. Guest speaker Major General Gabriele Salvestroni.
Saturday, April 2, 2011	<u>Bus Trip to Philadelphia.</u>
Sunday, May 15, 2011	<u>General Meeting - Presentation:</u> Festivals and Traditions in Molise.
June 2011 , Date TBA	<u>Visit to US Capitol:</u> A guided tour to the Brumidi corridor.
Sunday, July 31, 2010	<u>General Meeting - Presentation:</u> Chaplain (Capt) Fr. Paul-Anthony Halladay to speak about his experience in serving the spiritual and morals needs of troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.
Sunday, August 14, 2011	<u>Picnic:</u> Ferragosto.
Sunday, September 25, 2011	<u>General Meeting - Presentation:</u> TBA
November 20, 2011	<u>General Meeting:</u> Wine Tasting – Election.
Saturday, December 3, 2011	<u>AMHS GALA.</u>



The
Abruzzo and Molise
Heritage Society
Of the Washington, DC Area



Website: abruzzomoliseheritagesociety.org



Incontro di Vittorio Emanuele II e Giuseppe Garibaldi a Teano.



*Vittorio Emanuele II, Garibaldi, Cavour e Mazzini
gli artefici del Risorgimento Italiano.*

cut-----cut

LUNCH/MEETING

WHEN: SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 2011

TIME: 1:00 p.m.



**Anniversary
of the Unification of Italy.**



526 23rd St. S

Arlington, VA 22202. Ph: 703-979-8200

Menu: Penne al Pomodoro,

Pollo Portofino: stf. w/prosciutto, spinach, garlic, with cream sauce;
Vegetables and Salad. Tiramisu.

PRICE: \$25.00 members, \$28.00 non members.

PROGRAM:

AMHS will commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Unification of Italy:

Major General Gabriele Salvestroni, Military Attaché of the Embassy of Italy, will offer a brief over view of the events of the Risorgimento leading to the Unification of Italy and creation of the Italian State in 1861.

Viva L' Italia!

For information call: Joe Novello, 301-927-4766.

FRIENDS ARE WELCOME!

Reservation for AMHS Meeting on Sunday, March 27, 2011

Please make check to AMHS; send to AMHS, c/o Joseph Novello, 7035 Hunter Lane, Hyattsville, MD 20782

NAME: _____ Phone: _____

Number of people: _____ Check amount: _____ Email: _____



The
 Abruzzo and Molise
 Heritage Society
 Of the Washington, DC Area
 Website: abruzzomoliseheritagesociety.org



Come on board for another AMHS bus trip excursion, this time to:

Philadelphia

Come with us on a fun trip to the *City of Brotherly Love*, for an Italian Heritage tour. We will visit the Philadelphia Museum with its “Rocky” steps, the Fountain of Sea Horses (a gift from Italy), the Academy of Music modeled on La Scala opera house, the monument to Christopher Columbus, murals of Mario Lanza and Frank Sinatra, and of course the famous **Italian Market**. In the evening we will have a delicious dinner at an Italian restaurant in **Little Italy**.

Date: Saturday, April 2, 2011

Time: Bus departs at 8:30 AM sharp, return at 9:30 PM.

From: The Church of the Little Flower
 5607 Massachusetts Avenue
 Bethesda, MD 20816

Look for the tour bus. You will be directed where to park.

Cost: \$75.00 per person (seats limited, reserve early)

Cost includes:

- Deluxe bus transportation
- Guided tour of the city
- Dinner at an Italian restaurant in Little Italy.

Paid reservation by March 20. No refund after this date.



For information call: Joe Novello 301-927-4766, Bruno Fusco 301-654-5218, Nancy DeSanti 703-379-9418
FRIENDS ARE WELCOME

Please make check to AMHS; send to AMHS, c/o Joseph Novello, 7035 Hunter Lane, Hyattsville, MD 20782

NAME: _____ Phone: _____

Number _____ X \$ 75 = \$ _____ total enclosed. Email: _____

Meeting of January 30, 2011. Inauguration of Board of Directors - Abruzzo tutta la tua natura



Meeting of January 30, 2011. Inauguration of Board of Directors - Abruzzo tutta la tua natura





The
Abruzzo and Molise Heritage Society
1652 Massonoff Court
Vienna, VA 22182



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f. 202.682.3000

Jason Voss
Director of Operations
jvoss@crglegal.com
www.crglegal.com

If you wish to submit an article or news
for publication in the next issue of the
Notiziario, please do so via email to:
enniodit@aol.com. Thanks

If you wish to see the Picture Gallery of the Society's
events, please go the AMHS web site:
abruzzomoliseheritagesociety.org

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Website: www.abruzzomoliseheritagesociety.org

The AMHS Officers

Richard DiBuono, President, rjdibuono@aol.com, (703) 960-5981
Ennio Di Tullio, Vice President, Programs, enniodit@aol.com (703) 281-5847
Maria D'Andrea, Vice President, Membership, , uva051985@comcast.net, 703-998-6097
Joe Novello, Treasurer, novelloj@verizon.net (301) 927-4766
Joann Novello, Secretary, novelloj@verizon.net (301) 927-4766
Lucio D'Andrea, President Emeritus, luciodandrea@verizon.net (703) 978-7896
Omero Sabatini, Immediate Past President, Sabakiko72@comcast.net, (703) 931-5054
Romeo Sabatini, WebMaster, saba20705@yahoo.com, 301-931-3340

Board of Directors

Raymond Bernero, rayginiber@cox.net, (703) 323-5842
Rocco Caniglia, roccocaniglia@hotmail.com, 301-292-3847
Mario Ciccone, alvarocicc@aol.com, 703-759-5758
David Ciummo, ciummod@hotmail.com
Nancy DeSanti, ndesanti@stites.com,
Salvatore Di Pilla, azzurileo@yahoo.com, 301-423-6634
Bruno Fusco, granballo@hotmail.com, 301-654-5218
Joseph Grano, joegrano@netzero.com, 202-363-2526
Nancy Hurst, nhurstosia@gmail.com, 703-256-7977