

IL POSTINO

VOL. 9 NO. 4

JANUARY 2009 :: GENNAIO 2009

\$2.00



2008 Memories

Happy New Year - Buon Anno

IL POSTINO • OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA

www.ilpostinocanada.com

865 Gladstone Avenue, Suite 101 • Ottawa, Ontario K1R 7T4
 (613) 567-4532 • information@ilpostinocanada.com
www.ilpostinocanada.com

Letters to the Editor



Publisher
 Preston Street Community Foundation
 Italian Canadian Community Centre
 of the National Capital Region Inc.

Executive Editor
 Angelo Filoso

Managing Editor
 Marcus Filoso

Associate Editor
 Alison Bernal, Luciano Pradal

Layout & Design
dabdev.com

Web Site Design & Hosting
dabdev.com
 613.836.5842 | info@dabdev.com

Printing
 Winchester Print & Stationary

Contributors for this issue
 (in alphabetical order)
 Giovanni, Goffredo Palmerini, Luciano Pradal, Renato Rizzuti, Maria Rizzuti

Photographers for this issue
 (in alphabetical order)
 Angelo Filoso, Rina Filoso, Marcus Filoso, Alison Bernal, Giovanni

La Nostra Voce
www.lanostravoce.com
 FM97.9

Submissions
 We welcome submissions, letters, articles, story ideas and photos. All materials for editorial consideration must be double spaced, include a word count, and your full name, address and phone number. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, clarity and style.

Next Deadline
 January 22nd, 2009

Il Postino is publication supported by its advertisers and sale of the issues. It is published monthly. The opinions and ideas expressed in the articles are not necessarily those held by Il Postino.

A Reminder to all advertisers. It is your responsibility to notify us if there are any mistakes in your ad. Please let us know ASAP. Otherwise, we will assume that all information is correct.

Subscription rates
 In Canada \$20.00 (includes GST) per year.
 Foreign \$38 per year.

©Copyright 2009 Il Postino.

All rights reserved. Any reproduction of the contents is strictly prohibited without written permission from Il Postino.

CUSTOMER NUMBER: 04564405
 PUBLICATION AGREEMENT NUMBER: 40045533



dicembre 2008

Care Italiane, cari Italiani,

desidero innanzitutto ringraziare i Direttori della stampa italiana per offrirmi l'opportunità di indirizzare a Voi tutti il consueto messaggio augurale in occasione della Festività del Natale, per noi Italiani così sentita.

Giunto ormai al terzo anno in Canada, ritengo di aver maturato una sufficiente conoscenza delle nostre comunità che vivono in questo vasto Paese per affermare che i valori che contraddistinguono il nostro popolo sono ancora oggi assai diffusi e sinceramente sentiti; faccio riferimento a quelli di solidarietà, generosità, tolleranza e senso della famiglia, valori che provengono dai molti secoli di storia che abbiamo alle nostre spalle.

So pertanto che questo messaggio vi raggiungerà mentre vi apprestate a trascorrere questa ricorrenza in intimità, insieme ai vostri affetti più cari; intorno ad una mensa si riuniranno diverse generazioni, in una fusione di sentimenti e ricordi.

Ma auspico che questo non sia solo un momento di serenità, ma anche un'occasione per dedicare una riflessione all'importanza della memoria, al valore che per ogni comunità riveste il comune senso di appartenenza: capire in cosa esso si sostanzia, cosa abbiamo fatto per difenderlo e trasmetterlo alle generazioni che verranno e cosa possiamo, o dobbiamo ancora fare per l'avvenire.

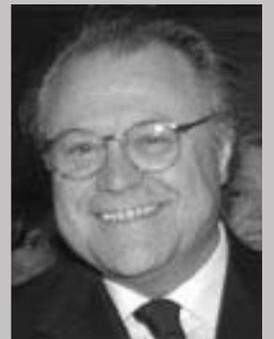
In questi anni ho ritenuto mio dovere fare ogni possibile sforzo per sensibilizzare le comunità per assicurare la sopravvivenza della nostra lingua; per portare in Canada più Italia e più Canada in Italia; per coinvolgere i giovani nella vita della comunità, puntando su progetti culturali nuovi e più vicini alla loro sensibilità.

Progressi sono stati compiuti ma, come sempre accade nei percorsi umani, molto resta ancora da fare.

Auguro a Voi tutti un caloroso augurio di ogni bene.

Buon Natale !

Gabriele Sardo
 Italian Ambassador to Canada



Have something to say?

Email your letters to information@ilpostinocanada.com

SUBSCRIPTION / ABBONAMENTO

- Yes, I want to subscribe to twelve issues of **Il Postino**
Sì, vorrei abbonarmi a Il Postino per 12 numeri
 \$20.00 Subscription Canada / Abbonamento Canada
 \$38.00 Subscription Overseas / Abbonamento Estero

I prefer to pay by: / *Scelgo di pagare con:*

- cash / *contanti* cheque / *assegno*
 money order / *vaglia postale*

Name and Surname: / *Nome e cognome:* _____
 Street: / *Via:* _____ Postal Code: / *Cp.:* _____ City: / *Città:* _____ Province: / *Provincia:* _____
 Tel.: _____ Fax: _____ Date: _____
 E-mail: _____

to / *intestato a:* Preston Street Community Foundation Inc., Suite 101 Gladstone Avenue 865, Ottawa, Ontario K1R 7T4

Local Announcements

Villa Marconi Volunteer Builders 1989-1999



Lucio Applloni and Luigi Mion present award to Carmelo Zito



Lucio Applloni and Luigi Mion present award to Alvise Maso



Lucio Applloni and Luigi Mion present award to Tony Zanon



Lucio Applloni and Luigi Mion present award to Mario De Giovanni



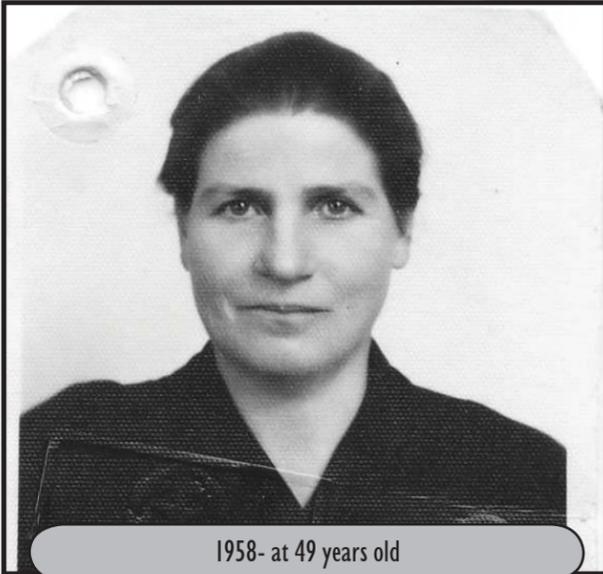
Lucio Applloni and Luigi Mion present to Nina Donofrio and Giuseppe Caracciolo



Lucio Applloni and Luigi Mion present award to Romolo Palazzi

Local Stories

Celebrating 100 Years of Life! Assunta Difederico Buon Compleanno January 21st 1909. The oldest Pretorese in Ottawa and Pretoro, Chieti



1958- at 49 years old

**Pro Loco Mirastelle – Pretoro
Catrum Pretorii 2008**

**Premio e riconoscimento a
Giuseppe Di Federico**

Al grande Jos'

Avev' Jos' sol' sédici ann',
quand' luntan' a it' a fatià ...
Avut' a j luntan'..., 'n Canada!
Ma tanti, qua Pr'tor' n' ll' sann' ...!

A it' a ffa d' tutt' a loc' a bball'
Lu cuntrabband' d' uiskij' e d' gallin'
S'alzav' sémpr' prèst' la mattin'
Senz' asp'tta lu cand' d' lu all' ...!

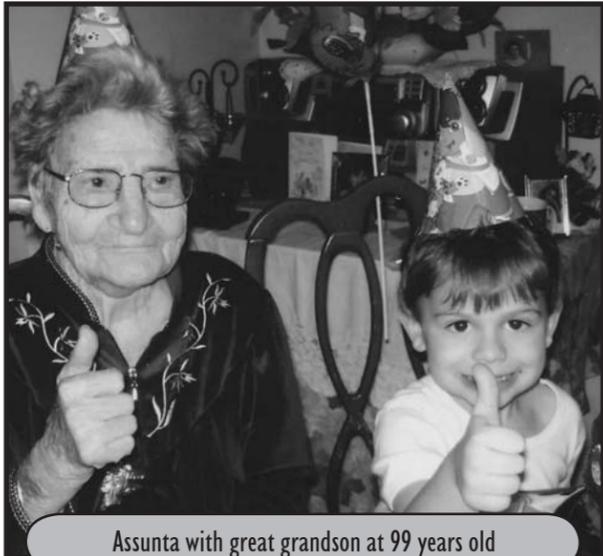
Pur senza tropp' a scol', qua a Pr'tor,
a mès' a post' tant' catapecchij'...
A duv'ntat' grand' <<imprenditor'>>...

N'n sta ma fèrm', manch's l'attèch'...
Pièn d'polv'r' voc'h' nas' e recchij'
È grand', Jos', pur s' è... necch'!

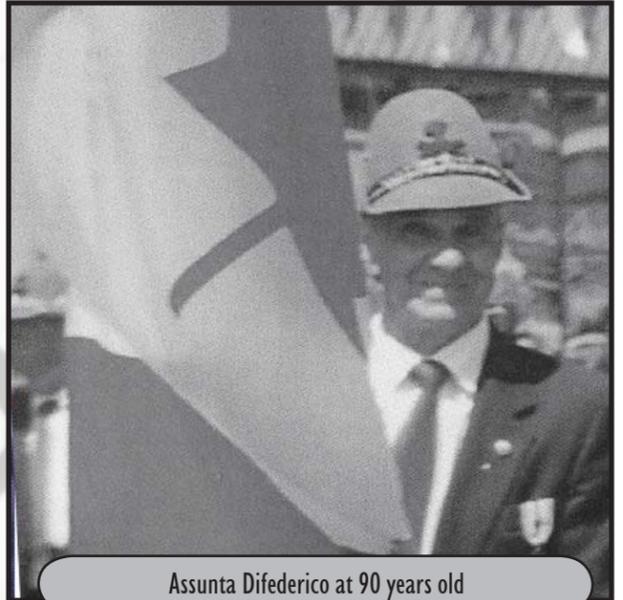
Pretoro 15 agosto 2008
Il Presidente - Nicola D'Innocenzo



Difederico Family-from left to right-Giuseppe, Cesere, Antonietta, Maria, Assunta



Assunta with great grandson at 99 years old



Assunta Difederico at 90 years old



Pretoro Chieti, Italia



New Furnace Installation New Year Special



AIRMETRICS INC.
HEATING • COOLING • FIREPLACES
COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL

24 Hour Service
Call for Holiday Specials!

Airmetrics has been providing Ottawa with heating, cooling and hot water solutions for over 25 years. You can be assured of great value, quality service and, most importantly, peace of mind when you purchase your Heating and Air Conditioning units and services through us.

Our experts can help you determine your needs. Whether residential, corporate, or private sector projects, large or small, we have the experience and skills to get the job done right!



\$100 off

Comfortmaker
La-Localizzazione & Ricerca

valid before February.21.2009

Call 613.235.8732 or email
service@airmetrics.ca for details

International

CONCERTO DI NATALE, ALLA CAMERA, CON I CORI DI MONTAGNA

Il Presidente Fini ha assistito all'esibizione, trasmessa in diretta, della migliore Coralità italiana

di Goffredo Palmerini

L'AQUILA – Diluviava lunedì scorso a Roma. Ancora preoccupazioni per il Tevere e l'Aniene a rischio d'esondazione. Avevo da trascorrere due ore di tempo, prima che la **Camera dei Deputati** consentisse agli invitati l'accesso all'Aula, previsto per le quattro del pomeriggio, per assistere al **Concerto di Natale**. Le ho passate nella Galleria Colonna, intitolata ora ad **Alberto Sordi**, anche perché il desiderio di visitare la mostra "" allestita in un museo di Via del Corso – una magnifica rassegna su diversi pittori fiamminghi – si è infranto sulla chiusura settimanale, proprio di lunedì. Pazienza. Ho risolto con la libreria Feltrinelli. Ero dunque a Roma per assistere all'ormai tradizionale concerto che dal 2005 vede esibirsi, nell'Aula di Montecitorio, i migliori gruppi italiani della **Coralità di Montagna**. Nove i cori selezionati quest'anno, provenienti da altrettante regioni: Lombardia, Emilia Romagna, Sicilia, Lazio, Veneto, Valle d'Aosta, Sardegna, Trentino ed Abruzzo. E per l'Abruzzo il **CORO DELLA PORTELLA**, prestigioso gruppo nel campo del canto di montagna e popolare. Nato nel 1982 per iniziativa del maestro **Vincenzo Vivio**, che lo dirige dalla fondazione, in un quarto di secolo ha tenuto oltre settecento concerti in Italia ed all'estero (**Usa, Canada, Austria, Germania, Svizzera, Polonia**), si è esibito al cospetto di Sua Santità **Giovanni Paolo II** e, nel 2002, di **Carlo Azeglio Ciampi**, Presidente della Repubblica, in occasione delle celebrazioni dell'**Anno internazionale della Montagna**. In più occasioni ha eseguito concerti sulle reti nazionali (**Rai Uno, Rai Due, Radio Tre**) e, nel 2006, ne ha tenuto uno al **Quirinale**, nella Cappella Paolina, trasmesso in diretta radio in tutta Europa. Anche il Concerto di Natale è ripreso sul canale satellitare della Camera. Viene trasmesso anche in differita, **domenica 21 dicembre**, alle 10 e mezza, su **Rai 2**. All'orario previsto per l'ingresso per fortuna cessa di diluviare. Si fa ordinatamente la fila per entrare a **Palazzo Montecitorio**, è abbastanza agevole il superamento del metaldetector, simile a quello degli aeroporti, come del guardaroba. C'è molto pubblico, convogliato con gentilezza dai commessi della Camera alle tribune che sovrastano l'Aula. Lo splendido emiciclo, per quanto familiare e visitato più volte, mi desta sempre meraviglia per la sua bellezza architettonica, per l'alta funzione di democrazia parlamentare che accoglie, talvolta meno per qualche spettacolo poco consona - sebbene in rari casi - che da cittadini francamente vorremmo risparmiarci ricordando tanti Padri della Patria che hanno illustrato quell'Aula con il loro esempio.



Ma torniamo per un momento al Palazzo Montecitorio. Furono i **Ludovisi**, a metà Seicento, a dare incarico a **Lorenzo Bernini** di progettare la loro residenza. L'architetto, straordinario interprete del barocco romano, realizzò un edificio che, nella struttura come nelle decorazioni, si conforma al contesto fisico del sito. La facciata, lievemente curva, segue l'andamento del terreno della collina, "*mons citatorius*" secondo un'ipotesi etimologica che gli avrebbe dato poi il nome. Gli elementi lapidei alla sua base, appena sbazzati con foglie e rami spezzati, simulano un edificio come costruito nella viva roccia, quasi l'artista abbia piegato la natura alle sue necessità, senza stravolgerla. I lavori, interrotti per le sopravvenute difficoltà economiche dei Ludovisi, furono portati a termine trent'anni dopo, per volere di **Papa Innocenzo XII**, che destinò l'edificio alla Curia Pontificia, massimo organo giudiziario, che appunto vi esercitò dal 1696. Dopo la morte del Bernini, il nuovo architetto **Carlo Fontana** modificò ampiamente il progetto originario, conservando la singolare facciata convessa con triplice portale, aggiungendovi l'arioso campanile a vela con l'orologio, corredato di tre campane, la più grande delle quali ora suona ogni volta che viene eletto il Presidente della Repubblica. Due secoli dopo la costruzione, Palazzo Montecitorio venne acquisito dallo Stato italiano, per destinarlo ad ospitare la **Camera dei Deputati**. Nel 1919 fu **Ernesto Basile**, architetto palermitano esponente dello stile liberty, a provvedere all'adeguamento del palazzo berniniano alle necessità della nuova destinazione, con corposi interventi d'ampliamento e ristrutturazione e con l'aggiunta dell'edificio verso Piazza del Parlamento. A lui si deve il grande salone detto *Transatlantico*, lungo ed imponente, considerato il luogo informale della vita politica italiana, e la splendida Aula delle sedute che il Basile progettò con uno straordinario lucernario a ventaglio in stile liberty. Nel disegno degli interni, specie nei dipinti murali che circondano la sommità dell'Aula, Basile dispiega il suo gusto, ottenendo un risultato complessivo in cui la solennità degli ambienti ben si sposa con l'arietà delle decorazioni e dei dettagli.

Proprio nell'Aula, sugli scranni ordinati a spicchi degradanti al centro, sui quali solitamente prendono posto i deputati, sono seduti i cantori dei nove cori con le loro divise variopinte, ad eccezione dello spicchio centrale riservato ai Parlamentari ed alle Autorità. Dall'alto delle tribune si gode davvero un bel colpo d'occhio su un'Aula insolita e colorata quasi ad arcobaleno, molti i cappelli con la penna nera. Alle cinque in punto, l'ora d'inizio del concerto, viene annunciato l'ingresso del **Presidente della Camera**, on. **Gianfranco Fini**. Una gran bella giornata, per il Presidente. In mattinata, infatti, il Presidente Fini ha consegnato ad **Ingrid Betancourt**, per quasi sette anni sequestrata dai guerriglieri delle Farc in **Colombia** e liberata qualche mese fa, il premio 2008 "**Pellegrino di Pace**", con una cerimonia nella Sala della Lupa alla presenza del presidente del **Centro per la Pace** di Assisi, **Gianfranco Costa**, di mons. **Claudio Maria Celli** e dell'Ambasciatore **Francesco Paolo Fulci**. Quindi, questo Concerto di Natale. Il saluto del Presidente della Camera non è di circostanza. E' sentito, come pure la soddisfazione che esprime - annota nel suo breve intervento - per il rinnovarsi della tradizione che porta un messaggio di serenità e pace autentico, semplice e profondo come lo sono i sentimenti della gente di montagna, adusa a portare solidarietà ed a vivere i valori del rispetto della natura, della tutela dell'ambiente e d'un grande patrimonio etico. Lieto, dunque, di accogliere quasi trecento coristi da nove regioni, di salutarli con i loro direttori, e di augurare a tutti Buon Natale. Fini lascia quindi il banco della presidenza e va a sedersi in uno scranno tra le autorità, dove si notano il sen. **Franco Marini**, già Presidente del Senato, e dell'on. **Pierluigi Castagnetti**, vice Presidente della Camera, ed altri parlamentari. Ci si alza per l'inno di



Mameli, cantato da tutte le formazioni corali, dirette dal maestro Pier Paolo Cascioli. Una bella emozione, tutto il pubblico trascinato a cantare. Finalmente gli italiani cantano il loro inno!

Inizia il concerto. Viene annunciato, come da programma di sala, il **CORO ALPINO OROBICA** di **Brugherio** (Milano), direttore don **Bruno Pontalto**. La formazione è composta da alpini in congedo della Brigata Orobica, come cappellano militare alpino in congedo è il maestro Pontalto. Divisa di vari colori pastello, a seconda delle voci, e cappello alpino. Esegue, come tutti i cori d'altronde, due brani: "*Benia calastoria*" di B. De Marzi e "*La Valcamonica*" armonizzata da M. Bordignon. Eccellente esecuzione, lungo l'applauso. La regia annuncia il **CORO BISMANTOVA** di **Castelnuovo ne' Monti** (Reggio Emilia), direttore **Giovanni Baroni**. Il gruppo si è costituito nel 1975, ha tenuto concerti in Italia ed all'estero. Divisa in tinta cuoio. Esegue "*Alla regina dei monti*", di L. Valcavi e poi un famoso canto tradizionale "*Maremma amara*", con armonizzazione di C. Malcapì. Una buona prova, applausi. Viene quindi chiamato ad esibirsi la **CORALE MATER DIVINAE GRATIAE** di **Nicolosi** (Catania), diretto da **Antonio Sciuto**. Coro misto, costituito nel 1984. Divisa scura, donne con sciarpa color prugna. Esegue due brani della tradizione popolare siciliana: "*La pampina de l'alivu*", elaborazione Modaro-Franco-Sciuto, e "*Ciuri Ciuri*", elaborato da G. Finocchiaro. Una buona esecuzione, applausi. La regia chiama poi alla prova il **CORO CAI** di **Roma**, direttore **Pier Paolo Cascioli**. Divisa rosso porpora per uomini e donne. Il gruppo è nato nel 1982 tra i soci della sezione romana del Club Alpino Italiano. Presenta un brano popolare "*Stornellata romana*" e "*Montagne addio*", entrambe con l'armonizzazione di L. Pietropoli. Una buona prova, in casa, per il Coro romano. Applausi. E' la volta del **CORO MINIMO BELLUNESE**, diretto da don **Gemo Bianchi**. Il gruppo veneto vanta una lunga storia, iniziata nel 1961. Oltre 40 le tournèe in Europa. Divisa marrone. Esegue due brani tradizionali di montagna: "*A la matina*" e "*Tone le ciaore*", con elaborazione di L. Pietropoli. Ottima performance, calorosi applausi.

E' il turno del **CORO MONTE CERVINO ANA** della **Valle d'Aosta**. Gruppo di tradizione alpina, costituito nel 2004, distintosi anche nel campo della solidarietà e dell'impegno sociale. Divisa bianca e cappello alpino. E' diretto dal maestro **Adolfo D'Aquino**. Esegue "*Su in montagna*", armonizzata da A. D'Aquino e "*Montagnes Valdotaïnes*", con armonizzazione di G. Cerruti. Buona esecuzione, applausi. Viene quindi annunciato dalla regia il **CORO DI NUORO**, direttore **Gian Paolo Mele**. Gruppo di quasi sessanta elementi in costume tradizionale dai colori bianco rosso e nero, canta in lingua sarda a quattro voci pari e voce solista. Ha tenuto tournèe in Canada e Stati Uniti. Esegue "*Su*

Continued on next page...

General Interests

from previous page....

Castanzeri (il Castagnaro) e *"Duru duru"*, due brani tradizionali armonizzati da G.P. Mele. Ottima l'esecuzione, bello il contesto scenico reso della vivacità dei costumi. Applausi. Viene chiamato a cantare il CORO DELLA PORTELLA dell'Aquila, diretto dal maestro **Vincenzo Vivio**. Divisa verde scuro. Il gruppo, tra i più quotati in Italia nel settore del canto di montagna, ha scelto due brani: uno della tradizione alpina *"La canzone del Piave"* di E. A. Mario, appropriato nella ricorrenza del 90° della vittoria, l'altro un canto popolare risalente al Seicento, *"A Barisciane"*, recuperato dalla tradizione orale ed armonizzato dal musicista Teo Uselli. Eccellente l'esecuzione, calorosi applausi. Viene chiamato infine il CORO GENZIANELLA di **Roncogno** (Trento), diretto dal maestro **Andrea Fuoli**. Il Gruppo, molto qualificato, vanta quasi mezzo secolo di attività. Reca una divisa con camicia a quadri rossa, dal tono molto acceso. Il Coro propone *"Preghiera trentina"*, armonizzata da F. Mingozzi, e *"Le carrozze"*, con armonizzazione di R. Dionisi. Esecuzione convincente, lunghi applausi. La bella festa del canto di montagna, in questo Concerto di Natale 2008 da Montecitorio, sta per concludersi. Non prima, però, secondo una consueta tradizione che da sempre osservano i Cori di Montagna, di cantare tutti insieme il classico "inno alla montagna" ed ai suoi valori, ossia *"La Montanara"*, il canto di T. Ortelli con armonizzazione di L. Pigarelli.



Viene chiamato don **Bruno Pontalto** a dirigere tutti i cori, in piedi negli scranni assegnati in Aula. Si alzano il Presidente Fini e tutte le Autorità, si alza tutto il

pubblico. Tutti cantano le note della *"Montanara"*, a qualcuno brillano gli occhi. Tutti si commuovono per la storia di *"Soreghina, la figlia del sol"*. Applausi calorosi e prolungati da destra, dal centro e da sinistra nell'Aula. E' un modo bello, semplice e genuino di mandare a tutti gli italiani, in Italia e nel mondo, l'augurio di Buon Natale, sia con il cuore che attraverso le reti televisive, in diretta o in differita. E di sentirci un'unica, grande famiglia nazionale. Insomma, la Coralità italiana di Montagna ha nuovamente regalato al Paese una bella sensazione. Che effetto vederli cantare ciascuno il suo repertorio e poi tutti i Cori insieme. Che messaggio di serietà composta, e insieme di gioia, la loro esibizione in concerto. Davvero un bel segnale.

Infine, da abruzzese, non posso non segnalare la gagliarda prova del **CORO DELLA PORTELLA**. Il gruppo si è formato per iniziativa di una trentina di cantori uniti dalla comune passione per il canto di montagna, sotto la guida di **Vincenzo Vivio**, architetto e docente di storia dell'arte, musicista autodidatta, che già aveva costituito e diretto, ufficiale di complemento, il coro della **Scuola Alpina di Aosta**, poi il coro del **Battaglione Alpini "L'Aquila"**, prima di fondare il CORO DELLA PORTELLA. Nel corso della sua attività il CORO DELLA PORTELLA ha raccolto crescenti consensi di pubblico e di critica, affermandosi come uno dei migliori complessi maschili italiani di canto alpino e regionale. La ricerca, lo studio e la diffusione del canto popolare italiano, abruzzese in particolare, costituiscono il campo prevalente d'interesse del complesso vocale, che si avvale della collaborazione di insigni musicisti e compositori. Va inoltre annotato il valore culturale della ricerca che il Coro da anni conduce nel recupero di canti popolari tramandati dalla tradizione orale, i quali andrebbero dispersi se non fossero trascritti ed armonizzati, come esso ha fatto salvando melodie antiche di secoli. Il CORO DELLA PORTELLA si è distinto per l'organizzazione di numerose rassegne musicali nazionali, tendenti a favorire l'incontro tra la migliore coralità italiana. Ha inciso tre CD e pubblicato, nel 2005, il volume *"Belle Rose"*, raccolta di canti popolari italiani armonizzati dal noto compositore **Teo Uselli**. Infine una notazione sulla "Portella", che è un monte ed un valico del Gran Sasso d'Italia. Vuole indicare una meta da raggiungere, ma anche un tramite fra popoli diversi.

*gopalmer@hotmail.com

Filò Women's Committee Seeking Nominations for the 7th Annual Women's Filò Awards

Call for nominations for awards to be presented at the 7th Annual Italian Women's Filò will be held at St. Anthony's Soccer Club on Thursday March 5, 2009.

The Filò Women's Committee is seeking nominations for its three awards. The Rosa Tiezzi, Maria Ierullo, (established in 2003) and the Jenny Prosperine (established in 2008) Awards recognize women in the Ottawa area of Italian heritage who are an inspiration and role models for women in the Ottawa community. Nominees must demonstrate commitment to community service and significant contributions to the Italian community.

Nominations submitted must contain a letter providing information about the nominee and describing, in no more than two pages, why this person is being nominated. This letter must be signed by two people from the community. Other letters of support and related material can be attached.

Nominations should be sent to:

The Filò Women's Committee
c/o Angela Ierullo
1287 Rustic Drive
e-mail: iangel@sympatico.ca
telephone 613 828 1807

The deadline for nominations is Friday February 7, 2009

Wake Up
Italian Style

YOUR Italian Program on CHIN Ottawa - 97.9FM
Monday-Friday between 6am and 12:30pm
Saturday between 11am and 1pm

Local SnapShots

Abruzzese Card Tournament Winners - Dec.2008



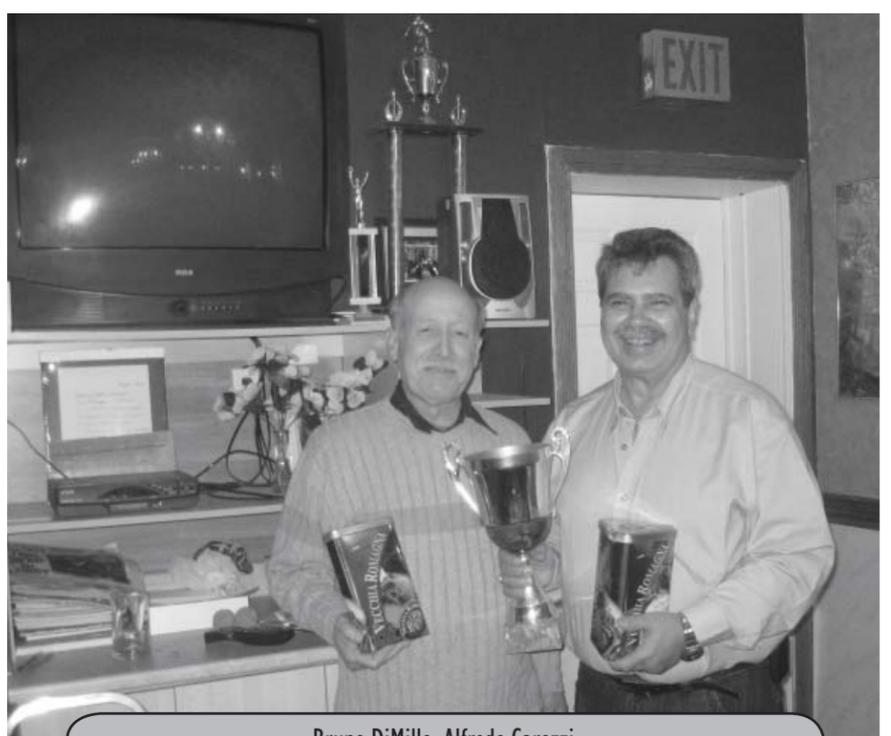
Delio D'Angelo, Alfredo Carrozzi, Bruno DiMillo and Tony Mariani



Vittorio Mazzuca, Nello Scipioni



Rina Filoso, Margo Bortolotti, Denise and Lorenzo Micucci, Alfredo



Bruno DiMillo, Alfredo Carozzi



Delio D'Angelo, Vittorio Mazzuca, Nello Scipioni, Tony Mariani



Bruno Giammaria with Friends



Community SnapShots

Rapinese Christmas Party - December.2008



The Organizing Committee with Santa!



Lorenzo Micucci with Ladies of the Association



Rina Filoso with Gabriel Bernal



Santa with Christian Bernal



Santa and a lucky girl



Santa and a lucky girl

Community SnapShots



St. Anthony's School and St. Rita help twenty Families in our Community :: December.2008



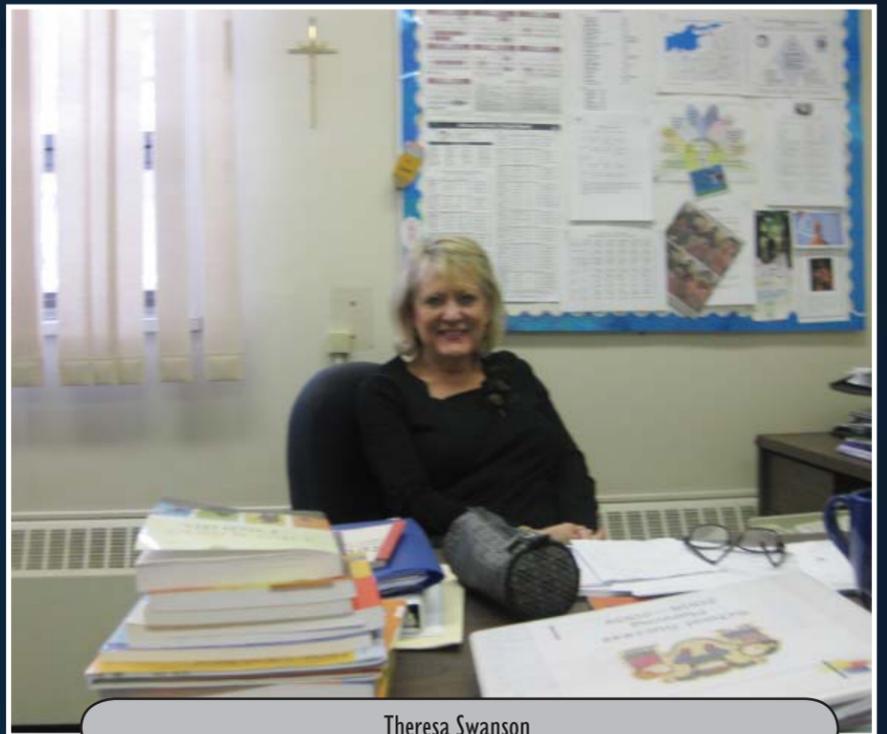
Teachers deliver Christmas hampers



Teachers with students of St. Anthony's School



Students preparing hampers



Theresa Swanson

Congratulations to Simply Biscotti on their Grand Opening
Visit them on Preston Street (corner of Preston & George st W)!



General Interests

My Name is Giovanni and I am Italian!

By Renato Rizzuti

Giovanni was a nice eight year old Italian boy. He loved playing ball hockey and video games. Giovanni felt that he was like all the other boys who were his friends yet he felt somehow different like he did not entirely fit in.

It had started that year in grade school. Giovanni's parents had moved and now Giovanni had to attend a public elementary school because he lived out of the boundary for the nearest Catholic school. It was the first day of classes on that warm September day. The teacher was a young man who had just arrived to Canada from England. His name was Mr. Pangbourne and he spoke with what seemed a funny accent to Giovanni. Giovanni missed his favourite teacher from St. Theresa's School. Her name was Miss Gianmarco and she knew how to speak Italian very well. She would sometimes joke with the class and say to the mostly Italian students, "Sette gattive, ma ti amo lo stesso!" This translates as "You are bad but I love you anyways!"

Mr. Pangbourne stood at the front of the class reading out names from the class list to check attendance. When he came to Giovanni's name he hesitated. Mr. Pangbourne tried sounding out Giovanni's name and it came out sounding like, "Guy-o-van-ni-nini." All the other children roared with laughter. Giovanni sat stunned. He did not know that he had a strange and funny sounding name! Miss Gianmarco always pronounced his name properly. Finally, Mr. Pangbourne said, "That's an Eye-Talian name. I believe the proper English translation is John?" Mr. Pangbourne then looked at the class to see who would answer. Giovanni tried to protest but the words would not come out of his mouth. As if defeated, Giovanni nodded in agreement. Mr. Pangbourne then said, "Right, then John it is."

Right away Giovanni had lost an important part of his Italian heritage. All the students in his class called him John. Although Giovanni cringed when he was called John, he learned to respond to his new name.

Giovanni used to go home for lunch but now he lived further away from the school so he had to bring a lunch and eat in the school cafeteria. Giovanni sat down with Henry, a friend he had made that morning at recess time. Giovanni opened up his lunch box and in it his mother had put a container of rapini and a pannino with Gorgonzola cheese. Henry had brought a baloney sandwich and a peanut butter and jam sandwich. When Giovanni opened the container of rapini Henry said, "Hey, you got spinach. I love spinach, can I try some?" Giovanni started to say, "But it is not spinach." However, before he got a chance to say it, Henry had put some in his mouth. Henry started eating the rapini and all of a sudden his face was contorted into a sour look. Henry said, "There is something wrong with your spinach, it tastes bitter!" Giovanni tried to explain that it was rapini but before he could get the words out of his mouth Henry started to unwrap his Gorgonzola pannino. As soon as it was unwrapped Henry got a whiff of the Gorgonzola, made another face, and then started to inspect Giovanni's sandwich. Henry then said, "John, the cheese has gone bad, it is all mouldy and smells like dirty feet!" Giovanni wanted to explain but he thought what would be the use, Henry would not understand!

After lunch it was time for a History lesson. Mr. Pangbourne told the class how Christopher Columbus discovered America. They read about Columbus in their History textbook. Giovanni raised his hand to ask a question. When Mr. Pangbourne called on him, Giovanni asked, "Wasn't Christopher Columbus actually an Italian explorer whose real name was Cristoforo Colombo?" The whole class had a confused look on their faces then there were a few chuckles. Mr. Pangbourne looked amused and then replied, "If that were true it would have been in the History textbook. Where did you get such an idea?" Giovanni wanted to explain that his father had told him that but he thought what would be the use, Mr. Pangbourne would not understand!

After school Giovanni walked home with Henry. Henry was talking about getting a cell phone. Henry said, "Yeah, sure would be cool thanks to that dude Alexander Graham Bell." Giovanni responded by saying, "Actually, wireless communication was also developed by an Italian paesano named

Guglielmo Marconi." Henry then said, "What did he invent macaroni? What the heck is a 'peesanno' dude?"

When they reached Giovanni's place they were ready to say good bye because Henry lived another block over. Giovanni decided to take out his iPod. Giovanni was about to put the headphones on when Henry said, "Let's hear what John is listening to." Giovanni

Wanted to explain that he had Italian songs on his ipod, but Henry was already listening to it by then. Henry then said, "What is this guy singing about a marina? Does he have a boat down at the marina?" Giovanni wanted to explain that it was the song "Marina" which is a woman's name, but he thought, what's the use? Henry would not understand.

When Henry got home, he was in the mood for a snack. Some Neapolitan ice cream would help relieve some of the "cultural stress" that he had to endure. At that point, his mother came home from shopping. Giovanni was helping to put away the groceries when they started chatting. His mother Rosa asked Giovanni how his first day at the new school was. Giovanni had an unhappy look on his face as he started to answer. Giovanni explained how Mr. Pangbourne was not as nice as Miss Gianmarco had how Mr. Pangbourne called him John. Rosa replied that Mr. Pangbourne did not understand Italian like Miss Gianmarco did and that Giovanni should explain how to pronounce his name to Mr. Pangbourne.

Then Giovanni explained what had happened at lunch. Rosa replied by saying how Henry needed to be taught about Italian food. That rapini was a bitter Italian vegetable. Gorgonzola cheese was supposed to be mouldy and is worth trying for the taste of it. Rosa laughed at Henry's comment that it smelled like dirty feet and she asked if Henry was in the habit of going around smelling dirty feet! Rosa summed up the lunch discussion by saying many cultures have foods that look and smell funny but it does not mean that they are not delicious to the people of that culture.

Later that evening, while they were eating a great dinner of lasagna and veal cutlets, Giovanni told his father about "Christopher Columbus" and his discussion with Mr. Pangbourne. Giovanni told his father that Mr. Pangbourne did not know about Cristoforo Colombo's Italian heritage. His father Pasquale explained to Giovanni that it was not common knowledge and that the history textbook was written not by an Italian person. Pasquale told Giovanni he was right in pointing out that fact to Mr. Pangbourne. Pasquale promised to call the school and talk to Mr. Pangbourne about it. Pasquale told Giovanni he should be patient with his teacher because Mr. Pangbourne simply did not know any better.

The next day Giovanni's mother made an extra sandwich of cappiccio for Giovanni's lunch. Rosa told Giovanni to explain what cappiccio is to Henry and to let him try some. Rosa also said that Giovanni should be proud to be Italian and needed to be more assertive when it came to promoting his culture.

On his way to school, Giovanni thought about being Italian. He had a lot to be proud of. Italy has a rich history he thought. Giovanni was determined to tell the others at school about his Italian culture. There was no more time to be shy; he planned to speak up at the first chance he got.

That morning, they had their History lesson from Mr. Pangbourne. Mr. Pangbourne explained how Canada developed into a multicultural nation. Mr. Pangbourne decided to ask the students about their cultural backgrounds to illustrate his point. Mr. Pangbourne asked, "Who can tell me about their ethnic background?" Nobody in the class wanted to answer except for Giovanni. When Mr. Pangbourne called on "John" to answer he was not prepared for the long impassioned speech he got from Giovanni! Giovanni started off by saying in a loud, clear voice filled with pride, "My name is Giovanni and I am Italian!" The rest, as they say, is Italian history!

Visit IIPostinoCanada.com



General Interests

Pasta with Rapini-Broccoli Rabe and Sausage alla Rizzuti

By Maria Rizzuti

There are three things my family really loves to eat, Italian sausages, rapini- broccoli rabe and pasta. These three things make for a very flavourful combination of spicy and savory. Today's recipe incorporates all three of these ingredients and the star ingredient today is the rapini.

Rapini is also known in non Italian circles as broccoli rabe. Contrary to popular belief, rapini is not related to the broccoli family of vegetables. The broccoli part of the name comes from the broccoli like appearance of this Italian vegetable. Rapini is related to both the cabbage and turnip family. The flavour of rapini has been described as nutty, bitter, pungent, and by non Italians as "an acquired taste." Italian children are used to the rapini flavour, as they are told by their mothers to, "Mangi il vostro rapini!" or "Eat your rapini!" as opposed to the more popular mother directive of "Eat your broccoli!"

Rapini descends from a wild herb, a relative of the turnip, that grew either in China or the Mediterranean region. Italians have enjoyed rapini for many hundreds of years and introduced it to America when they brought it over with them. Rapini has developed in popularity so that it is now grown throughout the world. Rapini is available all year long.

The peak rapini season is fall to spring in the Northern Hemisphere. Rapini -broccoli rabe has plenty of vitamin A, vitamin C and vitamin K. Potassium, folic acid, and fiber and it's tasty and obviously good for you!

Interestingly enough, according to "Rabbit Forum" on the internet, rabbits also like to eat rapini. Its no wonder why rabbits like rapini because rabbits' usual menu of carrots has the same top four nutrients as does the rapini. Perhaps we should emulate Buggsy's eating habits as he knows something we do not. Your rabbit does not have to be Italian to eat rapini. However, if you feed your bunny rapini, it may end up speaking Italian!

Rapini tends to be more popular in Europe than North America, however it is gaining more popularity as it becomes a new "trendy" vegetable to cook. Rapini is commonly used in traditional Barese and southern Italian cuisine which explains why this is a Calabrese favourite dish given my family background.

The other main ingredient is Italian sausage. Italian sausage is mainly made out of pork. Traditional seasoning for the sausage meat is fennel or anise. The sausages then can be formed into sweet or hot style. I personally like my sausage to be hot, hot, hot!

These two main ingredients combined with the pasta makes for a hearty and tasty dish!

Pasta with Rapini- Broccoli Rabe and Sausage alla Rizzuti

Servings 4 to 6

Ingredients

- 1 pound of orecchiette pasta or penne rigate
- 1 large bundle rapini, about 1 ½ pounds
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 to 3 large cloves of garlic-cut in large slivers
- ½ teaspoon chili flakes (optional)
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1 pound Italian hot or sweet sausage (remove from casings)

Preparation

Cook the orecchiette pasta according to the package directions. Reserve ½ cup of the pasta water.

In the meantime, trim ends of the rapini, wash thoroughly and cut into 3-inch pieces.

In a deep large skillet add water and bring to a rolling boil. Salt the water and then add the rapini. Cook about ten minutes until tender or al dente, drain and set aside.

Return the same skillet to the stove and add the olive oil, silvered garlic and chili flakes (optional) and sauté garlic at medium-high heat. When garlic is golden brown and aromatic, remove and add the sausage. Cook the sausage and break up with spoon until browned for about 8 minutes. If too much fat has rendered from the sausage you can discard some. Then add the rapini, pasta, and the ½ cup of the pasta water and season with the salt and black pepper to taste. Toss and stir to combine the flavours and until most of the water has evaporated.

Buon appetito and a very Happy New Year!

Did you know?

Italians Own Broccoli!

The word broccoli is originally Italian; it is the plural of broccolo, which is the diminutive of brocco, meaning shoot, stalk. Broccoli is a cultivar of wild cabbage, remaining exactly the same species. Wild cabbage originated along the northern and western coasts of the Mediterranean, where it was apparently domesticated thousands of years ago. That domesticated cabbage was eventually bred into widely varying forms, including broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, kale, kohlrabi, and brussels sprouts, all of which remain the same species.



Broccoli was an Italian vegetable long before it was eaten elsewhere. At that time it was a sprouting type, not the single large head that is seen today.

Italians brought broccoli to North America by 1806[3], but it did not become popular until the 1920s. Commercial cultivation of broccoli in the United States can be traced to the D'Arrigo brothers, Stephano and Andrea, Italian immigrants from Messina, whose company made some tentative plantings in San Jose, California, in 1922. A few crates were initially shipped to Boston, where there was a thriving Italian immigrant culture in the North End. The broccoli business boomed, with the D'Arrigo's brand name "Andy Boy" named after Stephano's two-year-old son, Andrew, and backed with advertisements on the radio.

Need a Web Site?

●●● dabdev

WEB . DESIGN . DEVELOPMENT

phone. 613.836.5842
email. info@dabdev.com
web. www.dabdev.com



Yasir Naqvi, MPP
Ottawa Centre

Community Office:

411 Roosevelt Avenue, Suite 204
Ottawa ON K2P 3X9
Tel: 613-722-6414

Email: ynaqvi.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org



International

Italians are a Bit Different from Us

By The Courier, Houma, LA. Chef Nino Columnist

Many times and on numerous occasions I have been asked "What are the people like in Italy; how are they different?"

These observations are from an American who lived in Italy for 13 years, mostly in Sicily in southern Italy. These are just a few interesting peculiarities — some good, some not so great.

This is by no means exhaustive but just a few notes. It would take volumes to pen all the wonderful characteristics of some of the most generous, industrious, innovative, sincere people in all the world, the Sicilians.

All outsiders are suspect. It has been estimated that if an Italian paid all of their taxes they would pay just more than 110 percent of their income. If you have a radio in your car you have to pay taxes — tax for a TV, tax for your driver's license. Italy has one of the highest income taxes in Europe. Tax evasion is prevalent and therefore when a foreigner, or a "stranger" comes to them, they are very stand-offish.

Suspicion is a very real part of Sicilian culture. Foreigners mean exploitation, religion means disillusionment and even friends and relations are not to be relied upon. Sicilians are secretive. They do not readily impart information for fear that in doing so they'll somehow incriminate themselves or others who would in turn seek revenge for having been incriminated.

"In this part of the world we have our own way of doing things," Don Calogero Vizzini said. It took me more than two years of living in Sicily before I really gained one friend.

Everyone was very kind but very superficial.

"A group of seven men speaking at the top of their lungs with hands raised in the air, touching each other occasionally, trying to convince each other of their argument, each one of them red in the face, neither of them convinced nor listening at all to the others side of the story, but at the same time enjoying this form of normal communication," I wrote in one of my journals. "An uninformed onlooker at this charade would have been convinced that they were mad at each other and ready to fight. Montanelli says that Sicilians do not converse. Each one of them engages in a monologue and does not listen to the other.

"The Sicilian, like most other people, is the product of his environment and, if one can say the victim of his circumstances. His character has evolved in the history of conquest and domination through which his island home has for the most part been that of a certain defeat. His mentality is the product of oppression and exploitation and only in the past few decades has made an effort to come to terms with the modern Europe."

Another description of the people in Sicily is the predominant "Bella Figura," which is the insidious constant obsession of every waking moment and even permeated in most of every unconscious thought and night time dream about being concerned what others think about you.

They try to project an image to others so that they think more highly of them than what they really are. This attitude is evidenced by a man whose income is \$800 per month and dresses in public and behaves as though his income was \$8,000 per month.

Image is more important than reality. Most Sicilians have two kitchens, one for show which is costly and has never been cooked in and the other for daily use which is very humble and is located outside. The other is "La Superbia!" Most of them are an expert on any topic known to man, not admitting faults or weaknesses, quickness to offer advice and recommendation even when not solicited.

With all of this said, once that seemingly impenetrable barrier is overcome, a lifelong friendship is forged that cannot be erased by time nor distance. Lest we Americans get the big head for being for balanced let us not forget their view of the Americans,

"Gli Americani possono camminare sulla luna ma non si possono camminare sulla terra," which means "The Americans can walk on the moon but they do not know how to walk on the earth."

Ouch! Fortunate is he or she who can take to best mentalities of both worlds and make one super-culture.

St. Anthony's Parish involved in Outreach Project

St. Anthony's Parish was involved in an Outreach Project during the Advent Season preparing baskets at Christmas. They contributed to 20 needy families within the area. Ms Theresa Swanson, Principal, welcomes and encourages you to come back.

Father Paul, St. Anthony's Church donated a turkey, a bag of potatoes, a box of mandarins; plus they had a food drive and donated grocers.

Involved are the teachers, staff, and children. Retired teacher Marie Claire Carpentier is one of the leaders, and permanent teachers Ms. Sullivan, Miss Harder, Miss O'Halloran, did most of the deliveries.

Holy Trinity School participated with the Baskets and had 8 Vans of Gifts and food. There were gifts for the parents and children. Among the gifts were candles. In the office they keep a list of the needy families with sizes and things that they may require.

Junior Division students helped with the wrapping.

Everyone worked hard and many thanks to all who participated and contributed from phone calls to holding the door open. It was a real success. See pictures on page 9.

Need a Web Site?

Print Advertising or Brochures?

 dabdev

WEB . DESIGN . DEVELOPMENT

phone. 613.836.5842
email. info@dabdev.com
web. www.dabdev.com

Local City Stories

The First Stanley Cup In Ottawa received by the Ottawa Senators at Dey's Arena the Corner of Bay Street and Gladstone - The Dawson City Klondikes

During the 1904-1905 season, the Dawson City Nuggets travelled in a extraordinary trip, 4000 miles south, to play the Ottawa Silver Sevens in a Stanley Cup Challenge at Dey's Arena.

The trip began on december 21st, 1904, during the harsh winters of the Yukon. As part of their 8 day, 350 mile journey to Whitehorse, they travelled extensively by bicycling, dog-sledding and walking, much enthusiastic to begin their journey. From there, they took a train to Skagway, a sea port in Alaska. Just missing their boat to Vancouver, they fortunately found another boat that took them to Seattle, in which brought on much water and sea-sickness amongst the crew. The proceeded then to Vancouver by train, and on to Ottawa where they were fit into a spacious smoking car.

After 23 days passed, the Nuggest dinally arrived in Ottawa to find that only 36 hours was given for them to recover from their exhausting trip and prepare for the first (sold-out) match between them and Stanley Cup Champions of the Ottawa Silver Sevens on January 13th.

This historical game was to be held in the newly furnished Dey's Arena, which had become the Silver Sevens much cherished home, and the arena was about to be tested to see whether it could facilitate a sold-out crowd.

And because back in those days, there were no subs from any of the teams, they lost their first game 9-3 to the Ottawa Silver Sevens in the Dey's Arena. The second game the Ottawa Silver Sevcns won again by 23-2, and is in the record books as the biggest single game winners in Stanley Cup history, and up to the present day, has not been broken.

In 1997, the 23 day road trip was enacted with a newly formed Dawson City Nuggets team as they travelled by dogsled and snowmobiles to attend the commemoration of the Dey's Arena, and the historically famous Stanley Cup game. After travelling back to the area, where Dey's Arena has long been torn down, they met a similar gate losing against the Ottawa Sentator's Alumni on March 23rd.

Not surprisingly, they lost their first game 9-3. But they took some comfort that they had kept it respectably close under the circumstances. This sense of comfort gave way to proud confidense as they opted to spend the two

days before Game Two "relaxing" in Canada's capital rather than training. This turned out to be a bad plan as they lost the second game 23-2, thus entering the record books as the biggest single game losers in Stanley Cup history. The record still stands.

The historical legacy of the Dey's Arena and the Ottawa Silver Sevens will never be forgotten.



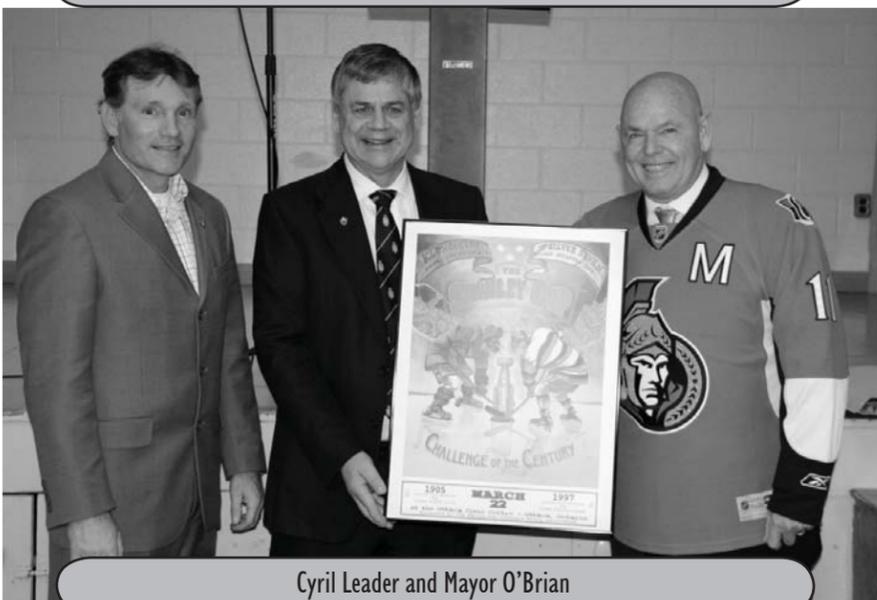
The Dawson City Klondikes posing in front of Dey's Arena (circa. 1905)



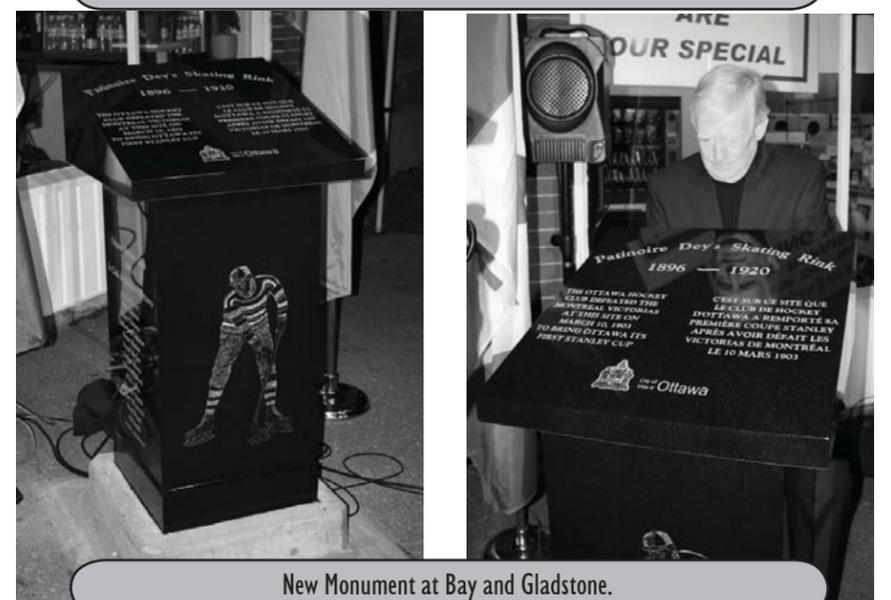
Councillor Diane Holmes, Mayor Larry O'Brian and Guests



Ottawa Police Event Organizers From far left: Cst. Stephen CARROLL, Cst. Marc DENIS, Inspector Murdock MacLEOD, Sgt Jean LAMOTHE, Cst. Steven LEWIS and Cst. Dave ZACKRIAS



Cyril Leader and Mayor O'Brian



New Monument at Bay and Gladstone.

Local SnapShots

October 2008 Ottawa Firefighters March in Albany, New York



Albany Fire Department Logo



Albany Gondola part of Parade



Deputy Chief (Retired) Dave Smith with Paul Casagrande and Deputy Chief of Albany Fire Department



Albany Organizers of Parade with Clare Smith and Maureen Casagrande



Ottawa Fire Department Band in Albany



Deputy Chief (Retired) Dave Smith Leads Parade

Community Calendar & Businesses




Ottawa CHIN Winter Picnic 2009

OTTAWA CHIN PICNIC 2009
SANDOS CARACOL BEACH & SPA
Ottawa - Cancun (Riviera Maya)
 non-stop flights
February 2nd - 9th, 2009



SANDOS CARACOL BEACH RESORT & SPA

Please contact CHIN Radio for any inquiries

Limited spaces.
 Don't miss out this year!
 Call 613-244-0979



COM.IT.ES. COMITATO DEGLI ITALIANI ALL'ESTERO OTTAWA

Nel vero spirito di ALLEGRIA, AMICIZIA ed ITALIANITA'
LE ASSOCIAZIONI ITALO-CANADESE UNITE di OTTAWA
 Presentano

IL CARNEVALE DEI BAMBINI

il 15 febbraio 2009
dalle ore 14 alle ore 18
alla St. Anthony Italia Soccer Club

Con un nuovo spettacolo
COLMO DI MAGIA, MUSICA E GIOCHI

Con grande richiesta...la nostra giovane "star" Alyssa Radulescu
 SFILATA di MASCHERE; Riconoscimento Per i Migliori Costumi;
REGALI e SORPRESE per i bambini fino a 12 anni

SORTEGGIO: Un biglietto per Disney World donato da Mario e Mimma De Marinis per i bambini mascherati

PIZZA & BIBITE PER TUTTI !!!!!!!
INGRESSO: libero per bambini; Adulti - \$10
 (E' da notare che ogni bambino deve essere accompagnato da adulti).

Visto che il posto e' limitato, per riservare i biglietti o per ottenere ulteriore informazione siete pregati di comunicare con uno dei presidenti delle associazioni comunitarie oppure con

As Member of Parliament for Ottawa Centre, I wish all members of our community

Safe and Happy Holidays and New Year 2009!



Paul Dewar

304-1306 Wellington Street W., Ottawa Ontario K1Y 3B2
 Tel: (613) 946-8682
 Fax: (613) 946-8680 Email : Dewarp@parl.gc.ca



Italian-Canadian Community Historical Society Inc.

"Celebrate with us Our Piazza Dante Fund Raising Dinner"

Ottawa Ottawa April 18, 2009

The Italian Canadian Associations of Ottawa invite you to Join the Italian Canadian Community for the Piazza Dante I Fund Raising Dinner Celebration to be held on Saturday April 18, 2009 beginning with the dinner at 7:00 p.m. at St. Anthony's Soccer Club 523 Arlington Avenue, Ottawa Ontario from 6:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

The purpose of this Celebration is to raise funds for the reconstruction of Piazza Dante at the Corner of Booth Street and Gladstone, Ottawa, Ontario. The reconstruction includes a new fountain and landscape.

Tickets are fifty dollars each including a five course sit down dinner and entertain through out the evening with the famous Italian Canadian Singer Tony Ieluzzi

For Information:

Angelo Filoso President
 613 -567-453 2
 info@ilpostinocanada.com

Nello Scipioni
 Centro Abruzzese



St. Anthony Annual Church Gala Dinner

Saturday, January 31, 2009
 6:00pm-1am

Ottawa St. Anthony Italia Soccer Club
 523 St. Anthony Street

Superb 5 Course Meal & Entertainment by Espresso

Tickets \$50 each

For information call
 Il Postino at 613-567-4532 or
 St. Anthony's Church at 613-236-2304

Support Your Church & Community with a quality night out!



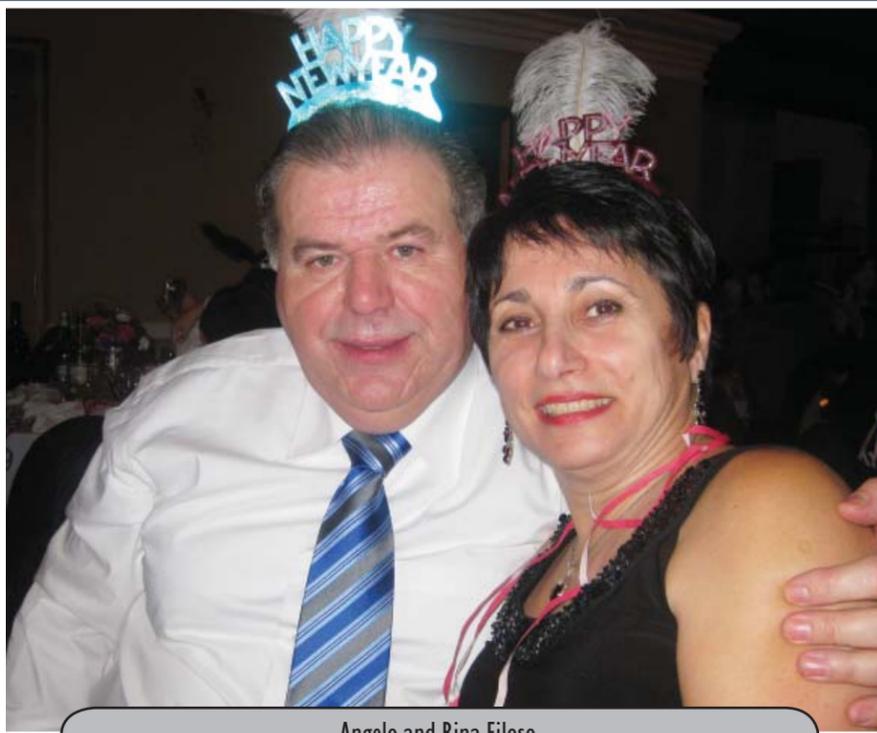
Il Postino Subscribers
 Renew your subscription today!

Only \$20/year!

865 Gladstone Avenue, Suite 101 • Ottawa, K1R 7T4
 (613) 567-4532 • www.ilpostinocanada.com



New Year's Party at St. Anthony's Soccer Club December.31.2008 - Ottawa, Ontario



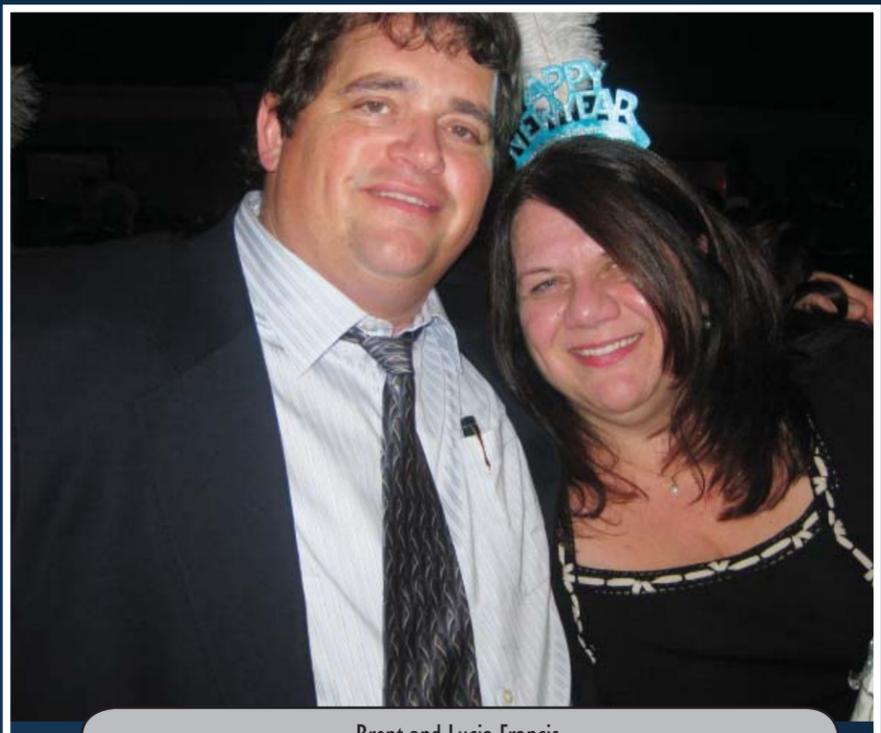
Angelo and Rina Filoso



Nello and Margo Bortolotti



Lorenzo and Denise Micucci



Brent and Lucia Francis



Alberto and Stella Disipio



Paul and Maureen Casagrande