

# Il Gazzettino

Friends of Italy Society of Hawai'i

c/o Friends of Italy Society of Hawaii  
P.O. Box 1376, Honolulu, HI 96807-1376

## upcoming events

- May 4 Annual FOISH Meeting  
Outrigger Canoe Club – 6:30 pm –9:00 p.m. dinner and dancing
- May 12 **Love, Lies and Soccer**, the film to be shown at the Movie Museum  
In Italian with English subtitles at 6:30 p.m.
- May 17 Potluck Kuapa Isle Recreation Center Hawaii Kai 11:30-4:30
- May 31 Cooking Class with Chef Sergio Mitroti  
Café Sistina – 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
- June 2 **The Right Distance**, the film to be shown at the Movie Museum  
In Italian with English subtitles at 6:30 p.m.
- June 14 Cooking Class  
Mix Café with Chef Bruno Iezzi – 11:30 am – 1:30
- June Date to be announced for potluck at the beach with bocce tournament  
Stay Tuned!
- July 7 **Good Morning Night**, the film to be shown at the Movie Museum  
In Italian with English subtitles at 6:30 p.m.
- August 4 Film to be announced.
- November Dates to be announced **Cinema Italiano in Hawai'i**, film festival.
- December 13 Christmas Party at the Kahala Resort so mark your calendars now!

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3.5" X 2.125"  
\$35.00/issue (Annual \$120.00)

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**FULL PAGE**  
7.75" x 9.75"  
\$175.00/issue (Annual \$550.00)

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Friends of Italy Society of Hawai'i

SPRING 2009



Last October, nine Hawaii delegates attended the biennial Terra Madre conference in Torino. This event is truly the United Nations of food. More than seven thousand delegates came from all corners of the world—chefs, farmers, fishers, salt makers, coffee growers and more. At the same time that Terra Madre is held, the Salone del Gusto is held in adjacent halls (in the former Fiat factory). This Hall of Taste is an extraordinary event, bringing hundreds of artisan food producers together and introducing these products to an adoring public. More than 175,000 people attended this five day event, including many groups of school children. More details at [slowfood.com](http://slowfood.com), the international website.

Laurie V. Carlson



# The Board

**Margherita Balbo Parrent**  
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**Rose Marie Giasolli**  
Vice President

**Ann Caputo**  
Secretary

**Kathy Wright**  
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**Paride Monti**  
Membership

**Carmen Di Amore-Siah**  
**Ron Ress**  
Director

**Margaret Rufo**  
Il Gazzettino Editor

## LIFE

by Paolo Ruffilli

How Life  
Begins and ends  
(perhaps by chance?)  
he luminous track  
the wake that leaves  
behind all  
that was  
loved or unloved  
or at least unknown  
joy or strife:  
all is cast into  
the blind vase  
in the arms of darkness.  
And yet meanwhile  
The faded trace  
Of all things  
Flourishes anew.  
The shadow and the smell  
Less than the color  
The evocation  
of the rose

## VITA

L'accendersi e  
Lo spegnersi  
(per caso?) della vita  
la traccia luminosa  
la scia che lascia  
dietro a sé  
quello che è stato  
amato o non amato  
communque sconosciuto  
la gioai e il lutto  
precipitato, tutto,  
nel cieco vaso  
tra le braccio del buio  
L'orma apassita  
Eppure, intanto,  
Rifiorita  
Di ogni cosa  
L'ombra e l'odore  
Neppure più il colore  
Il pensiero pensato  
Della rosa

# Letter From The President...

Cari Amici,

FOISOH is growing and we are fast approaching the 250 member mark. With another year coming to a close I can't help but look back and reflect on all of the great moments shared with the FOISOH including the Interpreti Veneziani concert at Orvis Auditorium, the Hawaii Opera Theater's production of a Verdi opera, attending the University of Hawaii's Pulcinella production, followed by our monthly movies at the Movie Museum with dinner afterwards at a nearby restaurant. Our lively Annual Dinner in May at the Outrigger Canoe Club is always a treat, and of course, partaking in the *Cinema Italiano* Hawai'i film festival is a week long festivity that is enjoyed by many... and of course, it is always a joy to come together during the Christmas Holidays for our year end Festa di Natale at the Kahala Resort. Not an event goes by without the opportunity to spread camaraderie among such a dynamic group of individuals.

I look forward to having you join us in celebrating with us at our 19th Annual Dinner at the Outrigger Canoe Club on Monday, May 4th, 2009! During the brief meeting we will review what we have done and how and where we plan to go in the next year. Have a bit of extra time on your hands? Don't know how to fill it? Have a special Italian interest to share? We would love to welcome you to our board. We are actively seeking new board members with a passion for things Italian and an ability to organize events for a lively group of people! Imagination is key along with a strong sense of humor in organizing or assisting with events. A bit of Italian language is helpful but not essential to getting the job done. Available positions are: President, Treasurer, Assistant Events Programmer or Programmers and someone who just wants to do it all or is willing to help out with everything. Even if you do not want to commit to a board position, we are always looking for individuals who are interested in stepping in and joining us in organizing an event! If you are interested in a particular lecture, wine tasting, musical or culinary experience or anything with an Italian slant, please tell us about it, and better yet, help us organize it!

It's been and continues to be so enjoyable to work with such a dynamic board. It's interesting to share our viewpoints and discover our commonalities and differences as well.....A special thank you to **RoseMarie Giasolli** our vice president who has initiated our monthly potluck and has been our Befana for many years, **Ann Caputo**, our secretary and master magician, who seems to find what we need for our events, **Paride Monti**, our membership director who has worked hard on creating our new membership cards accompanied with all of those wonderful benefits **Carmen Di Amore-Siah**, our board member at large

who has generously lent us her home for our board meetings for the past 3 years and has willingly jumped in and assisted when needed. **Ron Ress**, our board member at large who has been assisting us with our non-profit status review, and organized our lively auction this past Christmas. Ron jumped in and organized, collected/donated items for this fun event. Plus he is in the process of organizing an event that may benefit the earthquake victims of L'Aquila. **Margherita Rufo**, our new Gazzettino editor who took over for the incredible **Connie Oliva** who brought the Gazzettino back to being a vibrant newsletter, Grazie Connie! Welcome Margherita! She volunteered and has such enthusiasm coupled with many ideas. We can't wait to see the upcoming issues of Il Gazzettino. **Conne Sutherland**, our events director who ever so graciously arranged our FOISOH events including the Annual Dinner, Christmas party and Kailua Beach Party. Thank you for making these events so memorable given our small budget. Conne makes it seem so effortless and it's not easy pleasing such a diverse group as us, yet somehow she has managed and done so for years. **Kathy Wright**, our outgoing treasurer will be missed and we are loathe to see her leave our board! Kathy has straightened out our books, ensured that our bills are paid, collected the funds for our numerous events and has worked just about every event collecting the proper payments from everyone. At times she has been practically mobbed at functions and yet she managed to keep us all on track and filed our taxes for the last few years! Hurray! A special Mahalo to two members who are not on our board but have given their time and creativity so willingly. **Mary Bertolino** has manned our hotline and **Ann Ho** has also shared her creativity and fine eye for color and details. Remember last year's Christmas invitation? Have you saved yours just like I did? Well it was Ann who created that special invitation and almost all of the flyers for our events. She is simply amazing. Kudos to everyone!

As for me, Margherita Balbo Parrent, your president and resident coach for these past 3 years, it's been an amazing experience which has been enriched by working with such super fellow board members. Teamwork is what makes everything a possibility. Yes, we are a diverse, opinionated, and a warm (some may call it heated) group, and are lucky to be able to share so much with one another. Thank you for being a part of the FOISOH and for sustaining us with your continued membership. We simply would not survive without you!

On behalf of the board we look forward to seeing you at our Annual Dinner!

Cordialmente,  
Margherita Balbo Parrent



## LIFE . . . . HOW PRECIOUS IT IS

POP SUPERSTAR MADONNA has reached out to the victims of the recent earthquake in Italy – donating \$500,000.00 to the ongoing rescue effort in an area where her “ancestors” are from. The town of Pacentro, where Madonna's paternal grandparents lived until 1919, was severely affected by the disaster, prompting the region's mayor to appeal to the singer for help.

The 6.3-magnitude quake in Abruzzi killed 289 and left nearly 40,000 homeless - Friends of our FOISOH members, whose family lives in Castel di Sangro, 40 miles from the epicenter, report that all was lost in L'Aquila and nearby mountain villages - not just the treasures of the museums and the architectural treasures but irreplaceably, peoples' homes, their clothes, etc. The National Italian American Foundation (NIAF) is seeking donations of food, water and clothes. If you have a mind to, please consider a small donation to the organization. The Counsel General of Italy in Chicago indicated that NIAF is working nationally with all of the Italian American organizations in centrally collecting funds to help the victims and their families in this disaster. The Counsel General of Italy is officially routing all donations through NIAF. More information can be located at <http://www.italianchamber.us/info/NIAFPRESSRELEASEEarthquake.pdf>

## ANNUAL...

"occurring once a year"

## FOISOH...

"Friends of Italy Society of Hawaii"

## DINNER...

"a meal to be celebrated in communion with family and friends"

Let's celebrate once again at an iconic Waikiki location, the Outrigger Canoe Club!

This year, be sure to invite family and friends to join you for the Friends of Italy Society of Hawaii annual meeting and dinner. A particular pleasure will be the music by Pierre Grill.

Book now, and enjoy drinks, buffet, brief meeting and entertainment. And bring your camera to take a picture as the sun sets over the water off Waikiki!!

**MONDAY MAY 4, 2009**

**6:30 – 7 PM**

**no host cocktails and music**

**7 – 8 PM**

**Family Buffet**

**8 – 8:20**

**Brief Meeting**

**8:20 PM – til...**

**Music by Pierre Grill**

Cost is \$30 for members, \$40 for non members. Please RSVP by April 28 with names of attendees, phone number and check payable to FOISOH.

Mail to: FOISOH c/o Kathy Wright

1204 Mapuana, Kailua, Hawaii 96734.

Questions: Call 737-CIAO.



Dirce Carmi, Laurie Carlson and husband Chuck Giuli

## Meet Laurie Carlson!!!

Maunawili resident Laurie Carlson is the publisher of Honolulu Weekly magazine. Her husband, Chuck Giuli is half Italian and was a founding board member of Friends of Italy Hawaii (FOI). They have been members of FOI since its inception. Laurie has several connections to Italy, including having lived in Napoli for three years during her childhood. Her parents were enthusiastic travelers and going to Italy in those days was truly life changing for the whole family. When the opportunity arose for her father to be the ophthalmologist at the NATO hospital in Naples, the family felt fortunate to be able to live in one of their favorite places.

Additionally, Laurie heads the Slow Food Oahu (SFO) group. The founding father of the Slow Food Movement, Carlo Petrini, started this movement in Italy. He recognized in 1986 that the industrialization of food was standardizing taste and leading to the annihilation of thousands of food varieties and flavors. Concerned the world was quickly reaching a point of no return, he wanted to reach out to consumers and demonstrate they have choices over fast food and supermarket homogenization. He rallied friends and spoke out at every available opportunity. Today the organization is active in 45 countries and has a worldwide membership of over 85,000. The mission is to create a robust, active movement that protects taste, culture and the environment as universal social values. Along with international memberships, Slow Foods has other active Hawaii groups on the Big Island, Maui, Kauai and Kapiolani Community College. For more information, visit <http://www.slowfoodoahu.org>.

Laurie's involvement with SFO keeps her connected internationally to food issues. She and Chuck regularly attend the biannual Salone del Gusto in Torino. In addition, they visited John Reider (Cristina Bacchilega's husband) while he was on sabbatical in Florence. During this trip, they enjoyed many beautiful days, and ate a lot of good gelato. In the above left photo Laurie is next to John Reider in front of Bobboli Gardens where the Bobboli Gardens were spectacular on a fall morning.

Laurie and Chuck also keep the connection to Italy alive as they enjoy the company of Hawaiian Italians, Dirce Carmi, Ezio Tamburrini, Daniele and Luciano Minerbi, and others, many of whom are members of Friends of Italy. FOI is a touchstone for Laurie and Chuck, and they especially enjoy the Italian films and other cultural connections.

Friends of Italy Hawaii would love to meet you! Email Michelle at [mimshubbard@gmail.com](mailto:mimshubbard@gmail.com) so she can introduce you to the group.

## Due Chiacerre

Welcome to our new members: **Uklin Aluli, Eileen and Peter Azzopardi, Rick and Ryan Blangiardi, Sebastian De Angelis, Doris Dunch, Bill Duval, Jane Fukunaga, Joseph and Cathy Ginnasio, Myra Grefaldia, Kathryn Harada, Fiona and Dave Kennedy, Trina Kudlacek, Kathy Manali-Leonardo, Deliamarie Moore, Ligia Naghel, Josephine Nicolo, Martin and Luisa Ortogero, Keven Pena, Robert and Joan Ruggeri, Monica Salmaso, Michael N. Scarfone, Toshi and Lorna Suzuki, Maria Torcia and Richard Burke, Edward Weiss, Nancy Willmek...** Dr. **Michele Carbone**, interim Director of the Cancer Center and current Department head of Oncology at the UH Medical School gets as many kudos for his culinary talents as for his medical expertise, and he's putting this to good use. Dr. Carbone often invites interested parties to his home to discuss the Medical Center's future as well as to enjoy a fine meal in hospitable surroundings. The March 11 Star Bulletin article was a valentine to Dr. Carbone and included pictures and comments: "The topic isn't always about business, but you eventually get around to it. It fits right in with the local style... the talk-story culture but Michele brings his own dimension to that. He's articulating a vision." Said Art Ushijima, President, The Queen's Health Systems... Congratulations to Italian beauties **Rachel Siah** a Miss Junior Teen 2008 in Hawaii, and to **Erica Rodriguez** a Miss Teen runner-up... Did you know that there is not one Michaelangelo painting in a USA museum... **Joe Caldarone** dedicated his recent CD to his parents, **Giorgio and Nella Gina Caldarone**. Joey was nominated for a Hawaii Music Award and his CD includes songs about Torna Sorrento, the beautiful Amalfi coast town where his father was born... Speaking of music, some of the greatest instruments in the world came from Cremona, and yet the composition of the varnishes that

make them shine almost as sweetly as they play is still a mystery. The secret of how Antonio Stradivari made his orange varnish was lost, and to this day, nobody knows what he put in it... Congratulations to artist **Frank Oliva** who will be represented at the Artists of Hawaii 2009 Honolulu Academy of Arts juried exhibition which will run May 14-August 16. His work is one of only 64 pieces chosen... **Ligia Naghel** had a successful art show at the Louis Pohl gallery in Chinatown... **Nicholas Gambino**, a sophomore at Kamehameha Schools and son of **Thomas Gambino** will attend John Cabot University summer school in Rome. He will study Italian language and culture... currently **Cristina Bacchilega and John Rieder** are on sabbatical in Florence. **Joe O'Mealy** and **Hans Anderson** will be off to Florence soon... seems Italian cuisine is the focus in Honolulu lately. In addition to the Spring FOISOH cooking sessions, Kahala Hotel and Resort has featured Italian cuisine in its "Ciao Bella Kahala" dining series... and speaking of food, the print advertisements for Café Sistina on King Street are so appealingly Italian! The ads feature iconic images of Italian landmarks with a banner across the top which reads "Feeling Italian"... miracles do happen and **Concetta Di Leo** is one of them! She is doing splendidly following an incredible health challenge this past fall. Please continue to send her your healing thoughts!... long time FOISOH member **Rose Marie Giasolli** was feted by her sons for her 70th birthday. The lovely Rose Marie shared a birthday celebration with dozens of family and friends in Hawaii Kai and now proudly welcomes her 11th grandchild, Dominico Giasolli, March 27, 2009, Congratulations to **Ann Caputo** who has now become a great grandmother to Joshua Royce Martinez, April 14, 2009!!... The Board and Members of Friends of Italy send forth our deepest condolences to the **family and friends of Sandra Perez**, whose mother passed away on March 11... with the dollar getting stronger, Europe seems a more affordable place to vacation and Italian tourism is on the rise. Leading Hotels of the World is offering significant savings on luxury properties, including Venetian palazzi. Check out [www.lhw.com](http://www.lhw.com)... it's not too early to think about possible donations for the Silent Auction FOISOH Christmas Party. Contact any board member... For submissions to this column, please contact Connie [conniefive@yahoo.com](mailto:conniefive@yahoo.com)...

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## La Voce Dei Membri

Friends of Italy - United in spirit

We are so lucky to live in these beautiful islands and belong to the Friends of Italy. A little over a year ago our membership consisted of over a hundred and fifty members and currently we have over two hundred members many of whom are not of Italian extraction but love the Italian culture and spirit.

Our Italian members are either from Italy or descendants of Italians from various regions; Sicilia, Calabria, Abruzzo, Emilia-Romagna, Piemonte, Veneto, and Friuli Venezia Giulia, just to name a few. What makes Italy so interesting is that each of these regions is made of small towns, each having its own unique dialect and traditions. How wonderful it is to have Friends of Italy unite these regions of rich, diverse cultures, here in Hawaii.

I, for one, love this organization and each and every one of you. I grew up in an Anglo-Saxon town and yearned for Italians and their ways. Although I do not have any blood relatives in Hawaii, I have found a family through the Friends of Italy. Despite our differences, as members of the Friends of Italy, we share two important commonalities: First, we are all Americans and secondly we are either of Italian origin or we enjoy being apart of its wonderful culture that it has to offer. Unfortunately, there are days when we are faced with the challenge to overcome cultural differences, yet when we do, we become much richer in spirit.

Ellen Fera

## FOISOH MEMBERS GET A BREAK\$\$\$

Don't forget to take advantage of your FOISOH Member's **DISCOUNT PROGRAM** supported by the following participating businesses. You will receive a certain discount (10% mostly), upon making a purchase and presenting your cards. **(Publicized to all members upon issuance of the Card)**

### Cafe Che Pasta (Italian food)

1001 Bishop St., Suite 108, Honolulu.  
Tel.: 524-0004

### R. Field Wine Company (Wine and liquor)

Located in Foodland Super Markets at  
1460 S. Beretania St., Honolulu and  
108 Hekili St., Kailua.  
Tel: 596-9463 and 261-3358, respectively

### Sabrina's Ristorante Italiano (Italian food)

3036 Waialae Ave., Honolulu.  
Tel.: 739-0220

### Sutherland Events (Planning for all celebrations)

Tel.: 924-4442

### Elua Restaurant & Wine Bar (French and Italian)

1341 Kapiolani Blvd, Honolulu.  
Tel.: 955-3582

### Baci Bistro (Italian food)

30 Aulike St., Kailua.  
Tel.: 262-7555

### Boston's Pizza

(Any Boston's Pizza location on Oahu)

Tel.: 306-2053

PUBLICIZED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THIS ISSUE OF IL GAZZETTINO

### Concetta Bonfiglio (Italian language lessons)

Honolulu. Tel: 394-8032

### Roberto Pizza Party (Pizza baked at your party)

Honolulu. Tel: 497-5324  
E-mail: robpizzaparty1@gmail.com

FOISOH's Board members are working to add more businesses offering discounts to our members. Please contact us if you know of any businesses that may be interested in participating!

THANK YOU PARIDE FOR OUR MEMBERSHIP CARDS!

## L'angolo di Concetta

Amo le melanzane

Non ricordo che eta' avevo quando ho mangiato le melanzane fritte per la prima volta in vita mia.

Deve essere stata un'esperienza molto bella. Ricordo soltanto che a casa mia in Italia, mia madre le cucinava quasi ogni giorno dato il fatto che io, con le mie due sorelle continuamente le richiedevamo melanzane fritte.

Quando si parla di melanzane, molti pensano alla parmigiana o alla caponata, tutt'e due cose per me quasi sublimi, ma da piccolina io, le melanzane fritte, le preferivo sulla pasta con salsa e con tanto parmigiano sopra.

Ricordo anche che, se non erano sottili e croccanti, non mi piacevano molto.

Così' la mia mamma, cercava di accontentarmi sapendo che avevo questo debole.

Devo però' confessare che con l'eta' i miei gusti son cambiati un po'.

Le melanzane fritte non mi piacciono piu' sottili e croccanti ma tagliate piu' grosse e anche se fritte, non al punto da essere come una patatina frita.

A proposito di melanzane, ho scoperto che le amo mangiare anche cotte in un altro modo, soprattutto perche' le frittelle, alla mia tenera eta' mi fanno veleno o quasi.

Così' le taglio a quadratini, le metto nell'olio caldo e copro la padella, ma soltanto per poco tempo in modo che non si friggano completamente e poi vado aggiungendo un po' d'acqua ed un po' d'olio ripetutamente e ogni volta che l'acqua evapora. In totale circa un quarto di tazza d'olio e tre quarti di tazza d'acqua. Sale e pepe naturalmente.

Alla fine della cottura, otto minuti circa, sono saporite, secondo me ottime e soprattutto non dannose al fegato.

A presto.

CVB

**Concetta Bonfiglio continua il suo gruppo di lezioni d'italiano il venerdi' mattina ( 394-8032)**

**EDMUND A. CASSELLA, D.M.D.**  
Diplomate, American Board of Periodontology  
tel: (808) 955-1506 • fax: (808) 955-1551  
pgr: 846-5788

Ala Moana Building, Suite 1506  
1441 Kapiolani Blvd., Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

## Cinema Italiano

**MAY 12, 6:30 PM**

LOVE, LIES, AND SOCCER— Amore, Bugie e calcetto  
Claudio Bisio back on the big screen with "Love, Lies and Soccer", an amusing comedy directed by Luca Lucini. In Italian with English Subtitles.

**JUNE 2, 6:30 PM**

THE RIGHT DISTANCE – La Giusta Distanza  
by Carlo Mazzacurati

A small town where nothing seems to happen, two foreigners meet. A young reporter will learn more than just a profession. The "right distance" is what a good journalist should be able to keep with respect to the story, not so far as to seem indifferent, yet not too close either, because emotions can sometimes blind us. In Italian with English Subtitles.

**JULY 7, 6:30 PM**

GOOD MORNING NIGHT – Buongiorno, notte  
by Marco Bellocchio

The 1978 kidnapping and murder of Aldo Moro, president of the most important political party in Italy at the time, Democrazia Cristiana, as seen from the perspective of one of his assailants – a conflicted young woman in the ranks of the Red Brigade

No cost to members, but seating is limited. Reservations can be made by calling 737-CIAO.

Feast to follow each film at the Restaurant "Town" in Kaimuiki, for a fee of \$30.00 per person plus tax & tip. Limited to the first 20 people that respond. It's a tasting menu and it's fabulous!