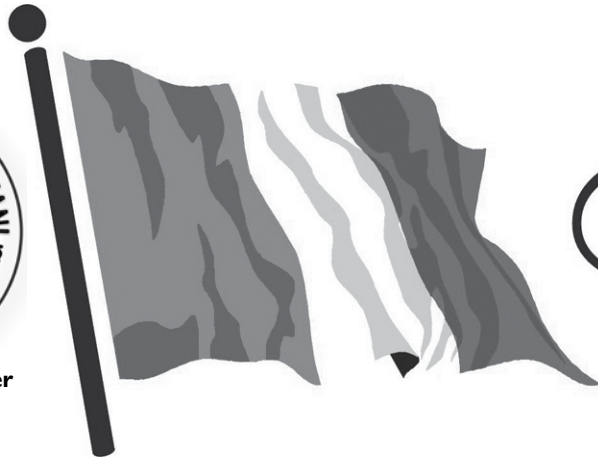




September • October



Italia

NEWSLETTER of the ITALIAN WORKMEN'S CLUB

914 Regent Street • Madison, Wisconsin 53715

IWC President David Rizzo, (608) 852-3665

Italia Editor Staff – IWC Phone: (608) 258-1880 – www.iwcmadison.com

President's Message



I hope you took time this summer to disconnect, unwind and re-fresh. Some may have ventured to other countries.

Some may have explored areas of our own country, or state. Whether it's an extended vacation, long weekend, or just an occasional day trip, we all can benefit from breaks in our routine. It helps us stay balanced.

The events of the past two years forced us all to do more cocooning than we as human beings are comfortable with. We're social creatures. It's natural for us to seek out others. The timing and extent by which we emerge from our cocoons is an individual decision, and everyone's decision should be respected.

My hope, and fervent prayer is that we all can enjoy the many wonders and blessings that our creator has provided for us with increasing frequency this fall and beyond.

Recent Events

Roma Lodge Bocce Tournament (August 14)

Jim Trameri, Antonio Re, Richard Alexander, John Caliva and Bryan Remondini represented our club at the Roma Lodge Summer Bocce Tournament in Racine on August 14th. There were 34 teams from Racine, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Madison, Detroit, Chicago and Rockford participating. Our IWC team won a game and was competitive in each of their losses. More than their overall record though, they helped maintain good relations with our brothers to the southeast and they deserve everyone's appreciation for taking the time to play this wonderfully

simple, yet challenging game.

McFarland Bocce Association (Summer League)

Richard Alexander organized a team to compete in the McFarland summer league. He was joined by Mike Stassi, Bryan Remondini and Cody Frederickson. The IWC team compiled a record of 25 wins and

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The more sand has
escaped from the
hourglass of our life, the
clearer we should see
through it.



Niccolo Machiavelli
Italian Politician

QuoteHD.com

(1469-1527)

14 loses and finished in first place out of eight teams. Congratulations to all!

Upcoming Events

800 Block Of Regent Street Project

By now, most of you have heard that the 800 Block of Regent Street (the church, Fraboni's Deli (which has been closed for some time), two houses and Buckingham's Bar & Grill) will be raised and replaced by a student housing and mixed use commercial multi-story building with underground parking. Although it's sad to see yet another piece of the old neighborhood disappear, the builders are planning to memorialize the Greenbush Neighborhood by designing a commemorative history hallway and mural on the

building's main floor. They've reached out to our club and several of our members will be providing information to the artists who will design the graphics to ensure that the story will include all aspects (good and bad) of life in "The Bush." The project is scheduled to break ground in November, 2022 and is projected to be completed by fall of 2024.

Wine Making

It's time to start thinking about making wine again. The first step in the process (breaking the skins of the grapes) will take place at our September membership meeting, which will be conducted next door on the backyard patio of Sweet Home Wisconsin. Once again, we'll use the classic wooden wine press and allow the natural fermentation process to eventually

lead to the time – consuming pressing and bottling. Please consider joining your fellow members in helping to preserve the tradition of authentic wine – making the way our ancestors did it. Watch your e-mail for details.

Club Picnic (September 18)

Our annual picnic will be held at McKee Farms Park in Fitchburg from Noon – 4:00 PM. A box lunch of sandwiches, chips and salads from Fraboni's Deli and beverages from the club will be provided. Join your fellow members and their families as we say goodbye to summer and hello to fall.

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Italia

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ACROSS

1. ____ freddo
5. May find one in a reliquary
9. Done
10. Allergen of the new age
12. Abominable Snowman
13. Baroque religious painter
14. They're at the top of churches
16. What's the _____?
19. In my opinion text
20. ____ de France
23. You don't have to do this in restaurants in Italy
24. Hat
25. ____ a mouse!
26. Sorta
27. Hail to Maria
28. The Pope is the Holy ____
29. Cain was this to Adam
32. Not al fresco
34. Capital of Italia
38. Northern light
39. Neighbor of a Siciliano
40. How you close a 6 down
41. Sounds little dogs make

DOWN

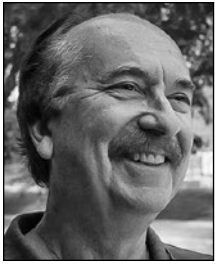
1. Milk substitute

1	2	3	4			5	6	7	8
9					10	11			
12					13				
			14	15					
16	17	18		19			20	21	22
23				24			25		
26				27			28		
		29	30			31			
32	33					34	35	36	37
38						39			
40						41			

2. Christmas ____
3. Where Caruso sang in NYC
4. Flower of 10 down
5. Famous pig of film
6. Bambini are clothed in them
7. Creature of habit
8. Aliens
10. Spring!
11. Belonging to the EU countries
15. Bullfighter on horseback
16. You'll hear about it if your wife has one
17. Opposite of bro
18. Herb also known as 'teamsters tea'
21. Harper of Mockingbird fame
22. Scrape by
30. You need to make it to tie a shoe
31. Bus this in a cafeteria
32. ____ in Italy
33. A novitiate becomes one
35. ____ pro nobis
36. It shows Italy as a boot
37. Washboard

Author Author!

By Tom Smith



When people think about Italy they often think of pasta, wine, Rome, Venice, and the Vatican. But did you know some of the greatest authors in the world came from Italy? Italian literature is filled with amazing stories written

by famous authors.

Has anyone ever called you Machiavellian? If so, don't take it as a compliment, it is far from it. The term comes from the Italian writer Nicolo Machiavelli (born 1469 in Florence, Italy) and his most famous work, a book titled *Il Principe* ("The Prince"). This political book advocates performing unscrupulous acts and behaviors in the name of getting ahead, and people who act that way are referred to as Machiavellian. Much like the philosophy of the Greek playwright Sophocles, it would seem Machiavelli believed "the end excuses any evil." In the most extreme situations the book actually promoted the deaths of innocent people, which resulted in the Catholic Church banning it.



Nicolo Machiavelli



Dante holding a copy of the Divine Comedy

Any discussion of Italian authors must include Dante Alighieri, considered one of the best Italian authors of all time, and his famous work from the Middle Ages, the *Divine Comedy*. Born in 1265 in Florence, Italy he was known to be a writer, philosopher, and poet. The *Divine Comedy* – initially called "Comedia" – is a poem consisting of 14,233 lines, that

took 12 years to complete, from 1308 to 1320. It is a vision of the afterlife and chronicles Dante's journey of the soul through the three realms of the dead...Hell (the *Inferno*), Purgatory (*Purgatorio*), and Paradise or Heaven (*Paradiso*). On this journey he is accompanied by three guides. The first, Virgil (who represents human reason), guides him through all of the *Inferno* and most of Purgatory. The second, Beatrice (who represents divine revelation, theology, faith, and grace), guides him at the end of Purgatory and for most of Paradise. Lastly, Saint Bernard of Clairvaux (who represents

President continued from page 3

Charity Golf Outing (September 19)

Our annual golf outing is back this year. Frank Alfano, Fred Underhill and Ralph Russo have done a great job organizing the event at Lake Windsor Golf Club. A box lunch will fuel golfers as they expend energy repeatedly striking, continuously chasing and occasionally losing sight of a little white ball on lush green grass, through beautiful trees and across sea and sand, which will be followed by a pasta and meatball dinner, door prize drawings and auction.

Elections

In keeping with our by-laws, we need to conduct elections in October for President and Vice President. A committee is accepting nominations through September 20th. Please consider submitting a member's name as a candidate (after first obtaining their permission).

• Honor The Past

Take time to reflect on family members who are no longer with us. The pride they had in coming to this country to make a better life for their families. The lessons they taught us about the value of honest, hard work and the importance of supporting each other in difficult times.

• Celebrate The Present – Be An Active Member

Come to a membership meeting. We get together on the 3rd Tuesday

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contemplative mysticism and devotion to Mary the Mother), guides him through the rest of Heaven. The journey lasts from the night before Good Friday to the Wednesday after Easter. This famous piece set a precedent for other famous Italian authors like Boccaccio and Petrarch.

Petrarch (Francesco Petrarca) born in Tuscany in 1304, was an Italian scholar and poet, credited as one of the founders of the Renaissance movement in art, thought and literature. In his early years he developed a deep religious faith, a love of virtue, and a great perception of the transitory nature of human affairs. Petrarch established a formula for writing that future Italian authors would follow. As one of the first humanists, one of his most famous works – Letters on Familiar Matters – focused on some of the most critical social issues facing Italy at that time.



Petrarch



Giovanni Boccaccio

In addition to Allighieri and Petrarca, Giovanni Boccaccio is the third member of what some have referred to as the “Three Crowns” of Italian Literature. Born in Florence in 1313, he was a writer, a poet, and someone who frequently communicated with Petrarca (as a fellow humanist) and promoted Dante’s work. Over time he became one of the most important figures in the European literary community, and some scholars consider him the greatest prose writer of his time. His most famous work was

the “Decameron,” a book that focused on the Black Death plague. A collection of tales compiled by Boccaccio between 1348 and 1353, it captured how the plague brought chaos and disaster to Florence, with descriptions of how it claimed the lives of his father, stepmother, and many friends. It offers a detailed picture of the symptoms of the plague’s victims and the social consequences of a pandemic that devastated cities, towns, and villages across Europe.

When you hear the name Casanova, you generally think of someone famous for his often complicated and elaborate affairs with women. In fact, his name is synonymous with “womanizer.” One night in the summer of 1755, he was arrested for almost every 18th century vice imaginable: blasphemy,



Giacomo Casanova

of every month at 6:30 PM to share a glass of wine, conduct a business meeting, enjoy a meal prepared by members and engage in animated conversation and genuine camaraderie.

Participate in our events and activities. Learn about making wine, sausage or pasta. Don’t see an event that interests you, make a suggestion.

• Envision The Future

Our club has endured through a challenging time. We have found our footing once again, and the Council is taking steps to ensure that our club will once again demonstrate our mission in action.

President’s Mail Box

Send me an e-mail (davidrizzo@me.com) or drop a note in the box I’ve provided in our club’s office. If there’s something you like or don’t like about our club, I really want to hear from you. I can’t promise that we’ll address every need, or implement every idea, but I can promise you the courtesy of a response.

Alla prossima volta, statevi bene e Dio vi benedica. ■

David Rizzo



gambling, astrology, and Freemasonry. He was sentenced to a stay at the dreaded “I Piombi” prison, and eventually managed to escape, leaving a note behind that read “Since you all did not ask my permission to throw me in jail, I am not asking for yours to get out.” But Giacomo Girolamo Casanova was actually a Venetian adventurer and author, and his autobiography – *Histoire de ma vie* (Story of My Life) – is regarded as one of the most authentic sources of the customs and norms of European social life in the 18th century. He also wrote a number of other works, but like many other authors at the time used fictitious names. Despite the fact that many of his exploits would be considered predatory by modern standards, including affairs with the emotionally vulnerable or underage, he associated with European royalty and was awarded the Order of the Golden Spur by Pope Clement XIII.

Not all the famous Italian writers are from the distant past. Though you may not recognize the name Carlo Collodi, who doesn’t know the story of Pinocchio, perhaps the most famous Italian children’s novel that became an animated Disney classic. A fairy tale with a moral, Geppetto the woodcarver creates the puppet Pinocchio, who dreams of becoming a real child. But his curiosity, dishonesty and selfishness are his worst enemy and his nose grows bigger and bigger every time he tells a lie. His bad behavior was meant to serve as a warning, and Collodi’s original story concluded with the puppet’s execution. Pinocchio’s enemies, the Fox and the Cat, bind his arms and pass a noose around his neck, hanging him from the branch of an oak tree. In the version we are familiar with from the Disney film, the story was changed because Disney himself felt Pinocchio’s traits and bad behavior made him too unlikeable. Alterations were made to make him more innocent and mischievous...likeable to the audience.



And perhaps the most famous 20th century author is Umberto Eco, best remembered for his novels “The Name of the Rose” and “Foucault’s Pendulum.” The Name of the Rose is a murder mystery combined with biblical analysis, literary theory, and medieval studies. The story takes place in 1327, with Benedictines in a wealthy Italian abbey suspected of heresy and Brother

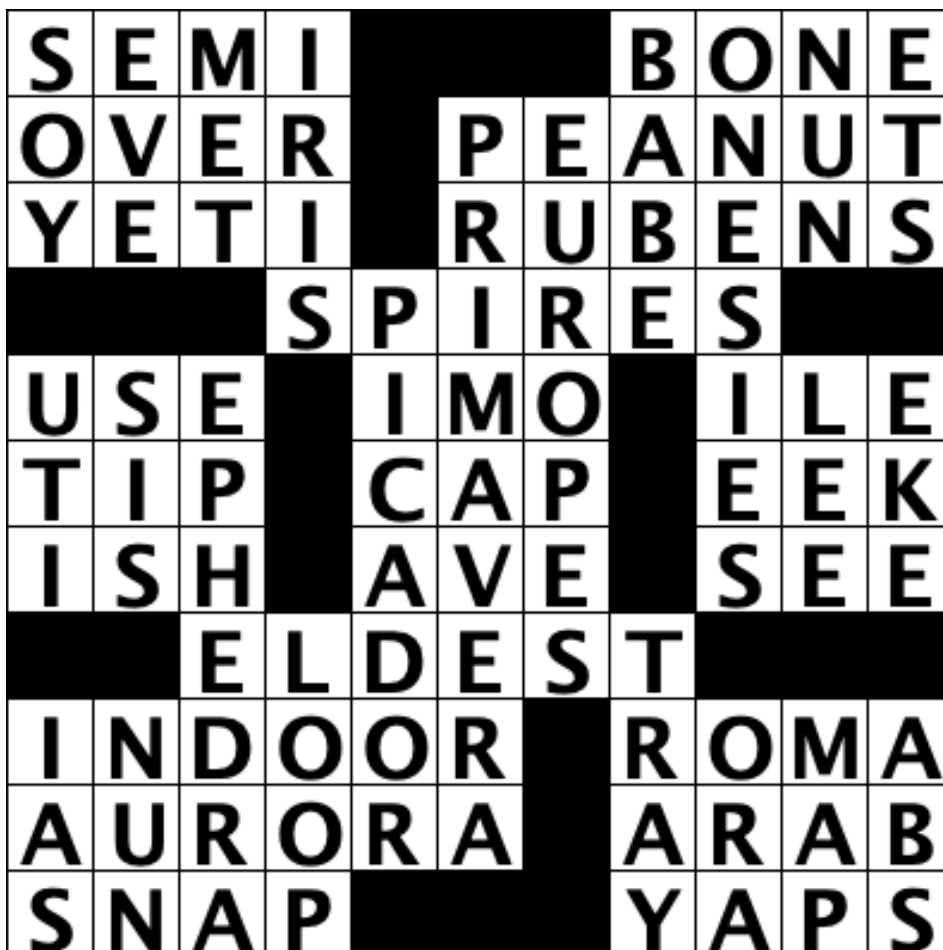
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William arriving to investigate. When his mission is overshadowed by seven bizarre deaths, he turns detective and – using the logic of Aristotle, the theology of Aquinas, and the empirical insights of Roger Bacon – he collects evidence, deciphers secret symbols and coded manuscripts, and digs into the eerie labyrinth of the abbey where “the most interesting things happen at night.”

“Foucault’s Pendulum” is a satirical novel filled with references to Kabbalah, alchemy, and conspiracy theory. It follows three employees working at a vanity press who invent conspiracies for their own entertainment. Things become complicated when they learn real conspiracy theorists have read their publication and taken their conspiracies seriously. They are then targeted by a secret society convinced they have the key to the hidden treasure of the Knights Templar.

Whether in the distant past or more recent times, Italian authors have played significant roles in literature. Those discussed here are just a small sample of writers who have created works that inform and entertain...some that you may wish to explore further. ■■

Solution



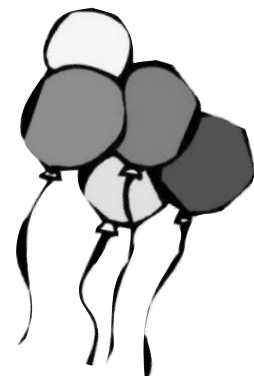
IWC Birthdays

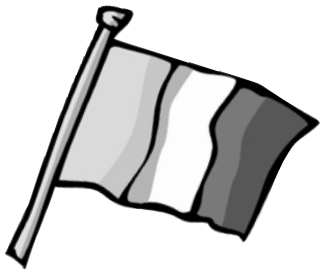
September

James Phillips	9/1
Michael Lumina	9/6
Jim Cerro	9/8
Jack Parrino	9/8
Tom Smith	9/14
Joseph Scalissi	9/16
John Benjamin	9/19
Rosario N. DePaola	9/21
Joseph P. Tripalin	9/21
Frank Ranallo	9/26

October

John H. Hunter	10/4
Travis J. Hunter	10/7
Claudio Gratton	10/8
Luigi Vitoritti	10/10
Donald J. Mash	10/12
Michael Schmidt	10/15
Steve Carrola	10/16
Andrew Lager	10/16
Joseph T. Parisi	10/24
Domenic Scudera	10/28
Steve Tortorici	10/30
Mike Cammilleri	10/31





Meeting Dates

IWC Council Meetings – 2nd Tuesday of
Each Month 7:00 pm

IWC Membership Meetings – 3rd Tuesday
of Each Month 6:30 pm

Please clip and post this calendar.



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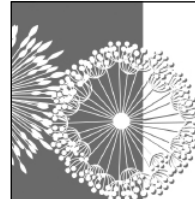
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