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President's Letter

Dear members,

I hope you and your family are keeping in good health. I would like to thank all the students for your support of our society by adapting to Zoom lessons. Thank you to Rita and the teachers. We had our end of semester function on Zoom as an AperZoom with students, teachers, committee members, and special guests. Rita prepared a short slide show on different Dante societies in the world. The Society is present in 60 countries of the world. We toasted to Dante, the teachers and the students. Please look on our Facebook page and on the Web for the photos. Thank you Martina and Brian. Thank you to special guests Salvatore Napolitano, Eugenio Vender and Mariangela Stagnitti for participating.

We have seen some wonderful video clips, pictures and memories of our beloved Italy. On various occasions and even during this pandemic, video messages have always made us, here in Australia, feel united to Italy and the global Dante Society organization, very much appreciated and geographically not so far away.

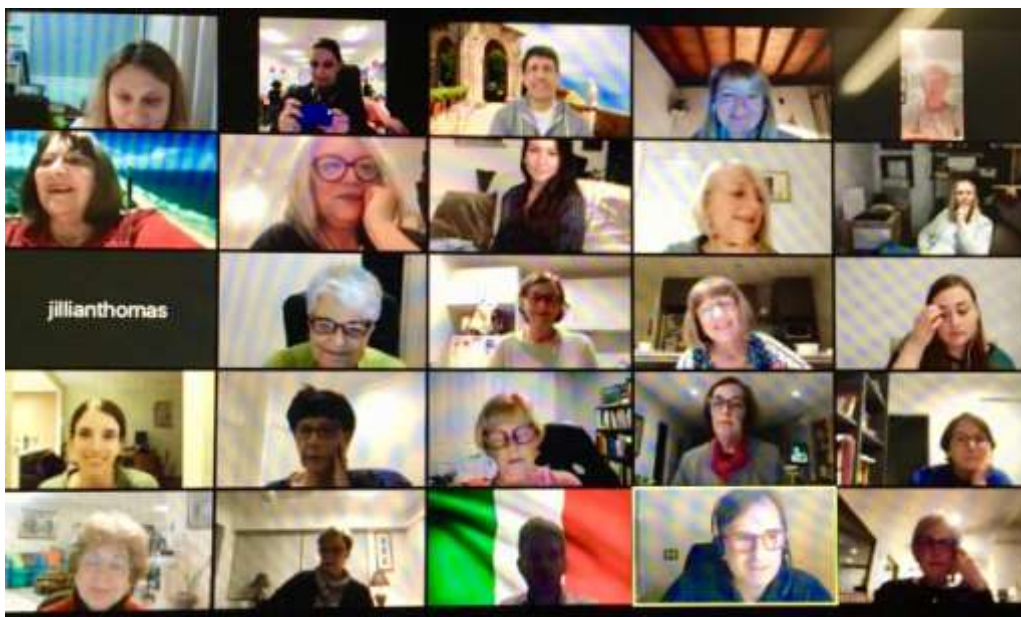
Thank you to our Life Member Mariette Alda and to everyone else who wrote articles for this newsletter. Next month we will have an article about The Alpini.

It is hard to know when our social and cultural activities can resume. Hopefully by the end of the year we will have an opportunity to gather joyfully and celebrate. In the meantime – take care, keep on washing your hands, maintain your required social distance and be kind to everyone.

Cordiali saluti

Giovanna

AperiZoom 2020



DATE CLAIMERS

13th July – 2nd Semester start
15th August - Ferragosto
19th September - holidays

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SCHOOL NEWS

It was very unfortunate that we could not have our usual get-together/dinner at the end of the semester, however our AperiZoom was a wonderful way for us to finish the semester on Zoom. We were fortunate to have special guests Salvatore Napolitano, the Italian Consul for QLD & N.T.; Dott. Eugenio Vender, Direttore dei comitati Esteri della Dante Alighieri a Roma; and Dottoressa Mariangela Stagnitti, Presidente Comites for Qld & N.T. Along with them were Dante committee members, teachers and students. We had several toasts, here is my thank you speech:

To the Students - On behalf of the teachers at the Dante, we thank you so much for your ongoing commitment, dedication, and interest in learning Italian during this time. The teachers would like to thank students for adapting quickly to this new experience of learning on Zoom and graciously adhering to the rules set out by the Dante.

To the Teachers - As school director, I believe our teachers have done an outstanding job, learning quickly to use the Zoom platform, allowing you to continue learning Italian. To our teachers, Luisa Liussi, Martina Medda, Martina Barzan, Charlotte Petrucci, Andrea Capone, Francesca Parato and Giovanna Santomauro, Grazie. Grazie for keeping the Dante alive here on the Gold Coast.

I know that for some of you, the Dante is only about the language, but for many of you, it is about the friendships you have built within each class and with your teacher. Though we are far apart, Zoom has allowed us to continue learning but also catch up with friends. Grazie to each one of you for your willingness to keep going through these times using this new method.

Arrivederci- Francesca Parato

We were very lucky to have had Francesca join our teaching team this semester. We would love to keep her here for longer but her leave from teaching in Italy is drawing to a close. Thank you Francesca for all your work with our classes. As we all noticed at the AperiZoom, your students have loved you and will miss you. Grazie.



Semester 2

Classes recommence in our rooms the week beginning **Monday 13 July**.

For further information on September holidays, please see the School Calendar.

Next semester will see the return of classes to the Dante rooms. **Our school will be complying with the social distancing requirements.** We will email more information to enrolled students.

Semester 2 2020

\$420 (returning student from Sem. 1 2020)

\$430 (new student this year including membership)

OR paying term by term

Term 1 (10 weeks) \$270.00

Term 2 (8 weeks) \$216.00

These details and the enrolment form are on the web site.

If you have any questions or concerns- please call me on 55270797

Or Email- info@dantegoldcoast.com

Rita School Director



Le gallerie tra Moneglia e Sestri Levante

Oltre a combattere con il congiuntivo... faccio trapunte per regali e beneficenza, ma adoro iniziare qualcosa di nuovo, quindi ho molti UFO (oggetti non finiti) COVID-19 mi ha dato il tempo di recuperare e ho finito 10 trapunte.

Carleen Condon

*Our students say why they like using Zoom.
The Italian is left as submitted by students
without corrections from teachers or editor.*

PERCHÉ MI PIACE USARE ZOOM

Scrivo a dirti quanto mi sono divertita l'esperienza delle lezioni di Martina con Zoom. In fatti, ho trovato che l'operazione del Zoom non è stata difficile. Martina è un'insegnante brava. Ho imparato molto. Per me, è stata importante a mantenere il contatto con i miei colleghi nello schermo!! Grazie alla Dante per l'opportunità di continuare allo studio con Zoom durante il periodo della crisi Covid 19.

Judith Roberts

"Grazie a questa tecnologia, fare lezione Zoom significa risparmiare molto tempo. Si rimane a casa, a proprio agio, tranquilla. Non c'è bisogno di lottare contro il traffico delle ore di punta, soprattutto nei giorni di maltempo." A presto

Dora

Mi piace Zoom perché sia molto conveniente durante la crisi Covid. Posso imparare la lingua bella a casa e interagire bene con gli altri studenti e l'insegnante, Martina.
Sarò contento di continuare con Zoom nel futuro.

Gerard

PERCHÉ MI PIACE USARE ZOOM (Cont.)

Preferisco frequentare le lezioni faccia a faccia ma quando non è possibile, Zoom è meglio che niente. Si può parlare con gli altri studenti ed è bene mantenere il contatto. Anche ci fa fare del compito e so che io, senza Zoom, farei niente.

È così facile da usare Zoom e devo ammettere che sia rilassante frequentare le lezioni senza la necessità di indossare scarpe! Mi piace Zoom ma non vedo l'ora di tornare in classe non-virtuale.

Jillian

Mark ha scritto...

"Per me e Davide, perché non dobbiamo guidare per andare alla classe e quindi possiamo bere un po' di vino durante la lezione! Anche Zoom è più efficiente per il tempo"

Mark Hayward

ZoomARE :

Mi piace abbastanza usare lo zoom.
Va bene perché consente flessibilità.
In più, mi piacciono i miei compagni di classe moltissimo.
La mia insegnante Luisa è molto brava a usare lo zoom.

Hannah Fitzpatrick - Beginner 2.

"Using Zoom was a little challenging at first but turned out to be quite fun.

We were able to relax at home and participate in our small interactive class. Would do it again!"

Deborah Heiner B1

ZOOM PICTURES OF SOME CLASSES ON P. 7

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MARIETTE ALDA

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, we now include this article from our Life Member, Mariette Alda, on how she has been coping during the time of the Covid -19 pandemic restrictions.

Thank you to Luisa Liussi for this interview.



“Did you ever feel alone, lonely, Mariette?”

“Never. I don't have time to be lonely.”

And with those few words I knew that I wanted to listen to the wisdom of this amazing 94 year old.

*“I have my family all around me (photos and memorabilia). It's my whole inspiration of living. My time in isolation has been pleasant, to do the things I wanted to do. Even though I am disabled that doesn't mean anything. My mind is active. Thank God for that. You must keep your mind active. I do not sew clothes anymore. I found all my old buttons and sewed them on a handbag - something different. When the Corona virus came into the world all the turmoil started. No wonder people lost faith in God: the world became unhygienic, selfish, greedy, too much violence and children became neglected. I could go on and on. I came up with the idea of The Holy Spirit, The Light, so I invented the candle, the healing light. It doesn't heal sickness, it heals the spirit by reminding people to pray. We need it. The base is from disposable handtowels which is natural cardboard. I put in pictures of different flowers, different colours and different sayings. Some people choose their own sayings. I have made so many for different people, and they love them! I have made 35, and still going on making them for my friends, for birthdays: for all my family, for all my grandchildren who I love so much and they love me back. I also do colouring books. My daughter Sonia has been wonderful to me: she has been cooking, bringing me all different meals. Different people, different friends have been popping in so I was never never lonely. Friends ringing me, asking me if I needed anything. I have a cleaner, I have a carer and I can take care of myself.... slowly. I am very happy in my own life. I have enjoyed every minute of this *isolation*. I thank all my friends, and I also thank the Dante for their monthly newsletter so I can keep in touch with everybody. My quote: Happiness is not based on possessions or on greed or prestige but on relationships with people you love and respect and caring for one another. Stay safe. Keep on praying. Happy Days,*

Love, Mariette.”

Luisa Liussi

TRAVELLING MEMORIES

"L'anno scorso ho frequentato una scuola di lingue a Firenze. Ecco una foto dal mio appartamento. Ho anche seguito un corso su come preparare la pasta."

Brian Bell



Please send us photos of your memories of Italy. If you don't have a photo with you in it, just send us a photo you have taken of a favourite place in Italy. Please email to: gianna52@hotmail.com

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CAFFE` DANTE

To enjoy a cup of coffee with delicious snacks and delightful friends one needs to be a member of the Dante Gold Coast. Cheers.

Tony Carnovale



It was lovely to have the chance to get together, finally, for a cup of coffee and a chat. Giovanna, Connie, Judith, Tony and I shared some conversation and a scrumptious morning tea, including Giovanna's tiramisu, in the Dante room in early June. We hadn't seen each other for quite a while so we had plenty to talk about. We kept our distance so we didn't break any Covid-19 rules. A very enjoyable couple of hours were spent sharing good food, good coffee and good company in our Caffè` Dante.

Astrid Pennisi

PATRONATO INAS

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PAGINA DELLA CULTURA
BOXER ROCKY MARCIANO – 1/9/1923 – 31/8/1969

Rocky Marciano was born Rocco Francis Marchegiano in Brockton , Massachusetts, U.S.A. of Italian parents. His father, Pierino Marchegiano, came from the town of Ripa Teatina* in the region of Abruzzo, and his mother, Pasqualina, came from the town of San Bartolomeo in Galdo in the region of Campania. He had three sisters and two brothers. The family lived across the road from the James Edgar Playground, so he was able to spend much time there playing baseball and later working out with homemade weights. He attended Brockton High School and played football and baseball but got pulled out when he joined a Church league. He dropped out of school in his 10th grade and then went from one small job to another. He was then drafted in the Army and sent to Wales where he ferried supplies across the English Channel to Normandy. While waiting for his army discharge in Fort Lewis he represented his unit in amateur fights and won the 1946-Armed Forces boxing tournament. By 1947 he started fighting in professional boxing knocking out Lee Epperson in 3 rounds. Later that year he joined the Chicago Cubs Baseball team but was cut out. He then decided to return to Brockton and began boxing training with his long-time friend Allie Colombo. Marciano's workout regimen included a minimum of seven miles running per day and wearing very heavy training shoes especially designed by a local shoemaker.

In 1948 he started fighting professionally winning against Harry Billizarian and, sixteen other fights. After that he changed his name to Rocky Marciano as it was easier to pronounce. In 1952 he beat Jersey Joe in the world heavyweight championship winning by an unrivalled 49 straight fights. Marciano went on to defend this title 6 more times. He retired in 1956 and died on 31 August 1969 in Newton, Iowa.

* NB. My family came from Ripa Teatina and I was born there. This town is so proud of Rocky and he is their hero. They call him their son even though he was not born there. There are many statues of him scattered throughout the town and many tourists come to see where Rocky's father was born, and to hear the story of Rocky's life.



Connie Canale

CORO NEWS



After 10 weeks of Zoom singing, the ladies of Coro enjoyed meeting on a beautiful Burleigh day to catch up on news.

 A beautiful afternoon gathering. Lovely to catch up and see everyone looking well and relaxed. Cheers. *Janine Corby*

ZOOM CLASSES



B1 – morning – teacher Luisa Liussi



Inter. 1 – Friday a.m.– teacher Francesca Parato

APERIZOOM



Thank you all so much for joining me on Zoom this trimester. It was only possible because of your willingness to embrace change and keep learning Italian, so thank you all very much. I have, as usual, truly enjoyed you and the experience. On Friday 26th June we had an “APERIZOOM” at 6pm for 30 minutes. It was lovely to see everyone who joined us to celebrate the end of this successful trimester.

Lastly, congratulations to all our beautiful new NONNAS, who have welcomed gorgeous new babies to their families. Also good job to you all for your constant efforts in learning our beautiful and precious Italian language.

Grazie a tutti,

Charlotte



Advanced 2 – evening – teacher Martina Medda



LCS – morning – teacher Martina Medda



LCS – evening – teacher Francesca Parato



B2 – morning – teacher Luisa Liussi