



# Italian Businessmen's Club of Portland Newsletter

## October 2011

### L 'angolo della Cultura

#### "Il Giallo"

"Il giallo" (the yellow) translates as "a mystery or crime novel", the term originating from inexpensive paperbacks with yellow covers that were Italian translations of old British and American mysteries. Modern Italian novelists have succeeded in writing crime novels for Italian audiences, however, few have been translated and turned into best sellers here in America.

Of course, there are very popular British and American novelists who write English language mysteries which take place in Italy. Their "Italian" detectives are well known and based upon the author's experience in Italy (some living there). These include New Jersey's Donna Leon (Venetian Inspector **Guido Brunetti**), Britain's Michael Dolan (Sicilian Inspector **Aurelio Zen**, which was also a recent BBC series on PBS), and Connor Fitzgerald's **Commissario Alec Blume** (American ex-pat).



Author Gianrico Carofiglio

That may change with the recently released English translation of "Temporary Perfections" by **Gianrico Carofiglio**, who has written best sellers in Italy, many of which have been translated into English with moderate success. The translation of this latest book is receiving excellent reviews here and in the UK since its September release and is headed for the US best seller list. One critic wrote: "he is proving a master novelist...with an intimate crime knowledge".

**As a former anti-mafia prosecutor from Apulia** it's easy to understand why he knows crime. Adding to his resume, he is currently a member of the Italian Senate and holds a black belt in karate. While in his former job as a prosecutor in southern Italy, he was in danger of assassination (it was reported that a WWII bazooka attempt on his life was foiled). On an American promotional tour for his new book this past month, Gianrico discussed his life and writing at the Italian Cultural Institute in San Francisco. Too bad Powell's couldn't get him to Portland.

The recent success of Scandinavian novels, such as "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" has led to success for many other translated authors and the hope is that Gianrico's newest book begins an Italian tradition here. As an avid reader of "i gialli", I have the book on order and hope it's as good as reviewed.

### IBC News and Happenings



Attendance was off at our October meeting but those who attended had a great time at Doc Sasso's house on the lake. A sausage and pepper bbq from Chef Alex was perfect. Mike Mignano brought a guest who immediately filled out an application and Emilio Barbaro also had a guest. Don Filippi made a return and it was most welcome to see him and George Passadore with us.

At left is a photo of Doc and Frank at the meeting ... oh ... Frank is wearing an apron which illustrates his love of Italian art by displaying Michelangelo's masterpiece, David (a part of the statue, anyway).

#### Meeting topics:

- Everyone agreed that the Festa Italiana was a stellar event and IBC volunteer participation was terrific, both at the upper wine garden and the IBC booth. Thank you to all who helped make it a great time for everyone.
- **Columbus Day Banquet:** though we have an IBC table as well as a 2nd table shared by Vic Alfonso and George Spada, the Columbus Day Banquet committee has asked all clubs to try to get additional attendees because of cancellations. Mike Mignano stepped up and committed to additional seats and all members were asked to get flyers to business associates and friends. It's not too late. Contact Bob or Frank to reserve a spot.
- Our vineyard afternoon, **Vendemmia**, will be another great one; lower price, entertainment, etc. Emilio Barbaro again stepped up to do the cooking along with some volunteers. **Please plan on attending and get your tickets as soon as possible.** (info on next page)
- Suggestions for adding member businesses and coordination of web site for clubs was an active topic.
- Where to meet? Monthly dinner meeting venue was discussed with many ideas but not yet a resolution.

### IBC Meeting Notice

We are still working on the perfect meeting spot for our monthly meetings and your suggestions to Frank are appreciated. We are set for Oct. meeting again at Port City Pasta and we are working on a meeting place for November. One possibility is holding a meeting at Broadway Cigar in LO with a discussion on cigars. Let Frank know what you think. Our December meeting will be our Christmas dinner at the Benson Hotel

**We will return to Port City Pasta for our next dinner meeting on Tuesday, October 11, at 6:30**

**333 S. State Street in Lake Center, Lake Oswego**



**"Vendemmia"**  
*Vineyard Harvest Celebration*  
**Saturday, October 8, 2011 1:00 to 5:00**  
*at beautiful Árdiri Vineyard*



This is our fourth vineyard afternoon and, if you haven't been to one, now is the time. It's a great way to spend a weekend afternoon among the vines. No matter what the weather, Árdiri Vineyard (40 min drive from downtown and LO) is the perfect place: wine, food, large covered patio, fireplace/fire pits, surrounded by vineyards.

The entertainment will be provided by Italian guitarist and singer, Andrea Algieri, and our own Emilio Barbero will prepare lasagna, salads and antipasto. The gracious owner of the vineyard, John Compagno will be our host, give a tour and discuss his award winning wine. Don't miss this one, and it's at a reduced price!

**The best time to be in a vineyard is harvest time and there is no better vineyard than Árdiri !**

**Sign up now for this popular afternoon ... and bring your friends**

**\$50 per person, pay by check to the IBC or call Bob Iannacone (971-255-0420)**  
**Or use PayPal online at our web site: [www.ibcpdx.org](http://www.ibcpdx.org)**



**Columbus Day Banquet**

**Celebrate our Italian heritage and attend this year's Columbus Day Banquet**

Join us on October 15th at the PDX Embassy Suites to celebrate with dinner, Italian wine and dancing. Jeff Gianola will be the guest speaker and the Sicilian Band will entertain us. Dinner is a wonderful steak and Salmon plate with salad and desert. Price is \$60 per person. Please reserve by contacting Frank.

**IBC Christmas Celebration ... Save the date of Friday, December 16**

**... for an elegant Christmas celebration at the historic and beautiful Benson Hotel**

Last year's dinner at The Benson Hotel in downtown Portland was a winner in terms of the Benson's holiday atmosphere and the really terrific meal that they provided. Therefore, we will meet at the Benson, change the date to a weekend (as many requested), add a shrimp entree for those who don't care for lamb osso bucco (which was really good) and keep the price at \$125 a couple (\$65 single). Fantastic pre-dinner antipasto with a no-host bar, live holiday and dance music by John English and many raffle prizes (included with your ticket).

**Member news**

**John Tirabasso** has closed his showroom at Tarala Floors and now is using multiple showrooms, rather than owning his own. John has also taken on a new partner, Kevin Fuller, a master finish carpenter (and top producer for Neil Kelly's home repair dept, 3 yrs running). This partnership allows John and Kevin to handle full remodels from deconstruction to drywall, paint, cabinets, windows, etc.....Everything!

Please contact John for all of your remodel, tile and flooring projects. He is committed to the same high quality workmanship and service you received at Tarala Floors. And as always, he will continue to be price competitive. Contact John at Creative Floors and Designs and Creative Remodel at 503-288-3245.



**Mike Mignano** is continuing his very active support of "Little Children of the World" by doing the Italian cooking for a fundraiser: Montavilla Kiwanis' **Annual Multicultural Feast**. Featured will be food from around the world and a renowned Celtic Harpist. All proceeds benefit Kiwanis' projects, both local, national and worldwide. Friday, October 21 from 5:00 PM to 8:30 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Milwaukie. Price is \$20. Call for tickets: 503-653-7365 or 360-574-1759 or email Mike at [peggy4mike@comcast.net](mailto:peggy4mike@comcast.net).

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