



BOCCACCIO

NEWSLETTER

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Elissa Weaver and Paolo Giordano, Rosary College

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South Central	Azzurra Givens, Florida State
Central	Elissa Weaver, U. of Chicago
West Coast	Marga Cottino-Jones, UCLA
Canada	Carlo Chiarenza, UBC

The regional co-ordinators are responsible for organizing meetings in their respective areas and also for gathering and forwarding material for the ABA Newsletter to the editor.

Letter from the President

To say, as an eminent critic once said, that the Decameron is perhaps the most "readable" book ever written by an Italian, is to say the obvious. But what bears stressing is that the writer of that book and of many others, all brilliantly original and historically influential, deserves all our attention even after so many centuries for his manifold impact in and outside Italy, throughout the Western world and beyond. And now that a small but dedicated group of students of Boccaccio has decided to form an American Association to further the study of Boccaccio's work and its splendid secular "tradition," it is our hope that everyone who is at all interested in this task will not hesitate to join and help us. Your support is needed and welcome. There is much to do; let us do it together.

THE PRESIDENT
Aldo Scaglione

BOCCACCIANA

Work in Progress

Professor Angelo Mazzocco, Chairman of the Department of Spanish and Italian at Mount Holyoke College is translating the Elegia di Madonna Fiammetta for the University of California Press.

Professor Paolo Cherchi of the University of Chicago is currently writing Onestà e cortesia, a book on courtly literature and the "cornice" of the Decameron.

Professor Marga Cottino-Jones, Chairperson of the Department of Italian, U.C.L.A., is completing a study of the Decameron and its social message.

Bibliography

Remo Cesarani reviews Boccaccio: Secoli di vita. Atti del Congresso Internazionale: Boccaccio 1975. Università di California, Los Angeles. 17-19 ottobre 1975, a cura di M. Cottino-Jones ed E.F. Tuttle, Ravenna, Longo, L'interprete, 4, 1977, in Annali della Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, Classe di Lettere e Filosofia Serie III, vol. VIII, 4, Pisa, 1978, pp. 1799-1802.

Announcements

The Annual Meeting of the American Boccaccio Association will be held at the MLA Meeting in Houston, Dec. 27-30, 1980. The two featured speakers will be Prof. Marga Cottino-Jones of U.C.L.A. and Prof. Giovanni Sinicropi of the University of Connecticut, Storrs. A cash bar will follow. There will be a separate business meeting, which we urge members to attend. Consult the MLA Program for times.

The Midwest Modern Language Association (MMLA) Annual Meeting will be held November 6-8, 1980, at the Leamington Hotel in Minneapolis. A Boccaccio Seminar is being organized by Prof. Lindsey Waters, Univ. of Minnesota Press, and Prof. Elissa Weaver, Univ. of Chicago. Abstracts will be accepted until May 5. Completed papers are due by the 15th of August.

The AAUPI Conference, Univ. of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, Nov. 20-22, 1980, will include a Boccaccio Seminar chaired by Prof. Janet Smarr of Yale University, visiting professor of Italian at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana.

The 15th International Congress of Medieval Studies, to be held at Kalamazoo, Michigan, May 1-4, 1980, includes three papers on Boccaccio: In Italian Lit. IV, Sec. 114, Friday May 2, 3:30-5:00 p.m., Ronald L. Martinez, Univ. of San Diego will present "Calandrino and the Numbers of the Sun (Dec. VIII, 3)," and Robert M. Durling, Univ. of Calif., Santa Cruz, will present "A Long Day in the Sun (Dec. VIII, 7)". In Comp. Lit. I, Sec. 151, Saturday, May 3, 1:30-3:00 p.m., Dennis Dutschke, Univ. of Calif., Davis, will present "Mythological Connections between Boccaccio and the 15th Century Cantari."

NOVEMBER, 1980 NEWSLETTER

Our next newsletter will feature a Boccaccio bibliography. It will primarily include works on Boccaccio written in the United States. A section of the bibliography will be dedicated to Boccaccio translations, books and articles in English particularly useful for courses in translation.

We would like to encourage contributions to the Newsletter from the general membership. A form has been provided for your convenience on page 3.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
OF
THE AMERICAN BOCCACCIO ASSOCIATION

I. Name. The name of this Association shall be: THE AMERICAN BOCCACCIO ASSOCIATION.

II. Purpose. The purposes of the Association shall be: the encouragement of Boccaccio studies among American scholars, regardless of their particular disciplines; the establishment of a permanent Boccaccio Studies Center; the hosting of an annual Boccaccio Studies Forum; the publication of a newsletter as a clearing-house of information and communication for Boccaccisti; the sponsoring of a Journal of Boccaccio scholarship, consisting of studies, abstracts, and reviews.

III. Membership. Any person may become a member of the Association by payment of the dues determined by the Executive Committee. Charter members are those who joined the Association within the first year since its inception, that is, before April 10, 1975. Honorary members may be elected from among non-resident foreign scholars and benefactors of the Association by the Executive Committee.

IV. Organization. Under the Provisional Constitutions of the Association, the governing body shall be the Executive Committee, consisting of a President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer.

V. Officers: Election, Term of Office, Duties.

1. The President of the Association shall be elected by the general membership from a slate of candidates prepared by a Nominating Committee of three members, for a term of office of two years. The President will preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee and of the General Membership. The President is also an ex-officio member of all standing committees.

2. The Vice President shall be

elected in the same manner as the President and will also serve for two years. The Vice President is also an ex-officio member of all standing committees. The Vice President automatically becomes a candidate for the presidency of the Association at the expiration of the President's term.

3. The Secretary-Treasurer is appointed by the President and the Vice President for a term of not less than two years and for as long a period thereafter as the Executive Committee shall determine. The Secretary-Treasurer shall act as secretary of the Executive Committee and of the General Membership meetings and shall be Editor of the Association newsletter. The Secretary-Treasurer is also an ex-officio member of all standing committees. Under the supervision of the Executive Committee the Secretary-Treasurer will handle all business arrangements, collect dues, bill the membership, and budget Association expenses.

4. Editorial and clerical assistance shall be provided to the secretary-treasurer at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

5. The two-year terms of the officers will be staggered to insure the continuity of the Association.

6. When an elected official leaves office before the expiration of the term of office, the Executive Committee shall provide a replacement for the duration of the term.

7. Nomination to honorary positions is made at the discretion of the Executive Committee and should be submitted to the general membership for approval. Such nomination should be made rarely and only of scholars of outstanding achievement.

VI. Committees

1. Since the Nominating Committee is not a standing committee, it is not open to the ex-officio membership of the Executive Committee. A Nominating Committee of seven members shall be elected from the general membership at the annual meeting.

The Nominating Committee shall elect their own chairman and determine their own organization.

2. The Program Committee shall consist of from five to ten members selected by the Executive Committee. The function of this committee shall be to research, organize, and carry out activities in keeping with the purposes of the Association, and to make arrangements for the annual meeting.

3. A Membership Committee consisting of three members will assume responsibility for building up the membership of the Association and preparing an annual directory of members to be submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer not later than sixty days before the annual meeting. This Committee is to be appointed by the President.

4. A Committee on Constitutions and Bylaws will be appointed by the Executive Committee to study the Provisional Constitutions, poll the membership, and otherwise work toward a permanent form for Constitutions and Bylaws of the Association. This Committee will also decide, in conjunction with the Executive Committee, the amount of the annual dues.

VII. Meetings. Under the Provisional Constitutions and Bylaws the annual meeting will be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association at a time and place to be determined by the Program Committee. This meeting will be preceded by a meeting of the Executive Committee, with time and place to be determined by mutual agreement.

VIII. Dues. To meet mailing and publication expenses, initial dues shall be two members [sic; memberships?] payable upon application for membership. The payment of dues entitles members to all of the rights and privileges of membership and includes subscription to the newsletter. Members in good standing may vote, serve on committees, contribute to the newsletter and other publications and participate in the

formation of policy. For the first three years only Charter Members may hold office. Honorary Members do not enjoy the right to vote or to chair committees, although they may serve on them.

IX. Ratification of the Provisional Constitutions shall be by two-thirds majority of the general membership. Amendments to the Provisional Constitutions, once ratified, shall be submitted to the Committee on Constitutions and Bylaws.

BYLAWS

1. Membership Lists. Copies of the membership lists, updated after the general membership meeting each year, will be given to the members of the Executive Committee. No one may use the membership lists, except for the normal uses of the Association, without express permission from a majority of the Executive Committee.

2. Filing of Records and Documents. Originals of Association documents and records are to be kept in the Home Base safe. Copies of these documents will be kept by the Secretary-Treasurer.

It is the responsibility of the Secretary-Treasurer to see to it that originals and copies of the originals are sent to the Home Base. The Secretary-Treasurer is responsible for all financial records and pertinent documents.

3. Mailing and Communication. The mailing address through which members may communicate with the Association will be that of the Secretary-Treasurer.

4. Home Base. The Home Base of the Association is the repository of Association documents, records and other items of Boccacciana of scholarly interest. Until and unless the general membership determines otherwise, the Home Base of the American Boccaccio Association will be Verrazzano College, Saratoga Springs, New York. The Secretary-Treasurer is the custodian of the Home Base files and safe unless otherwise designated by the Executive Committee.

AMERICAN BOCCACCIO ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Membership: Regular: \$5.00 Sustaining: \$15.00 New Renewal

Send this form with dues to:

Elissa B. Weaver
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CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

1. Works in Progress:

2. Announcements:

3. Boccaccio Bibliography:

4. Other:

Name _____

Address _____

Mail to: Boccaccio Newsletter
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The University of Chicago
Department of
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