



Spring has finally arrived, a little late this year. Summer residents are finding their way back and on Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> we had our first large outdoor Happy Hour of the season. It has been a strange winter, with a great deal of rain and although mostly mild, we had one week in February where extreme cold (as low as -15°C one night) damaged many olive trees and most oleanders, while also bursting some pipes, so spring is more welcome than ever.

Sadly, one of our favorite warm weather neighbors will not return this year. Carolyn In'tVeld died last October, after a recurrent battle with cancer, shortly after returning to her home in Holland from Acqualoreto. While we look forward to a new summer season here in Umbria, we'd like to devote a little space to remembering Carolyn and we dedicate this newsletter to her memory. Carolyn and her husband Robert Schreve bought a house in the woods just outside the village about ten years ago. They restored the house beautifully and spent about three months a year here and another three months in Africa where Robert, a retired surgeon, performed surgery where needed, while Carolyn used art as therapy for orphaned children. Here in Acqualoreto, she offered her insights in a painting workshop, where her enthusiasm for experimenting was contagious. She displayed her own work at our annual art exhibits during the August festivals. Robert and Carolyn each had three children from earlier marriages and when they were not here themselves their various children and grandchildren enlivened the village



*Carolyn with some of her charges- August 2016*



*In front of the appropriately sized kids' gallery*

with their cheerful presence. We're happy that that will continue.

Besides being kind to children and other people, Carolyn was also a friend to animals. When she found a dog

that was not getting the sort of care and attention here that it needed, she went to considerable effort and expense to find it another home in Austria and to deliver it herself. But that was Carolyn; kind, helpful, generous and talented. She will be missed.



*Kids celebrate their creations at the Circolo*

Institutions, as well as people, do not go on forever. La Cruccola, the restaurant started in Acqualoreto in 2004 by Neysa Forbisconi, may be coming to the end of its run. Neysa has announced that she will be ceasing operations at a time yet to be determined. La Cruccola has become something of an institution here in town and we all hope that someone can be found to keep it going.

There are many events coming up in the near future in our area. Unfortunately, the annual procession to the Sanctuary of the Pasquarella on the Sunday after Easter was canceled this year due to security concerns, based on a landslide of some sort near the sanctuary. Was it overreaction or just reasonable prudence? Time will tell.

In Terni on the final weekend of April and extending through May 1<sup>st</sup>, Umbria Jazz will present its first edition of Umbria Jazz Spring. There will be some interesting music in some attractive venues. The center of Terni is looking better than we've seen it in recent years and we suggest a visit. Check

the Umbria Jazz website for the program, or look on the [www.punditalia.net](http://www.punditalia.net), jazz in Umbria page for more information.

The local theatrical group of Collelungo will give two performances of *Aspettando Jo* at the Teatro Comunale of Avigliano Umbro on Friday and Saturday evenings, May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, at 9:15. They are very, very good. If you're in the area and you understand Italian, don't miss it.

The Malina Brothers Bluegrass Band from the Czech Republic, will be back in Morrucce and Acquafredda for three of four days in mid-May. They will be performing but we are not yet aware of the locations. They have been here many times and even if you never thought of Bluegrass as your favorite type of music, you will probably enjoy their work.

Although we have not yet heard of the plans for this year's event, we assume that the Volo e Vento Festival will be back this year at the end of June with art contests, exhibits and jazz concerts.

In Izzalini, the annual cinema festival extends from late June to early August with food and movies in the beautiful piazza every Saturday night.

Todi's cultural offerings seem to keep growing every summer. There are many events but we would single out the Todi Music Master program with masterclasses and concerts from August 4<sup>th</sup> to August 17<sup>th</sup>. These feature outstanding young musicians from all over the world. If you're in the area during the summer, by all means check at the ProTodi office for all the many events taking place from June through September. The Todi Festival is in September with theater, concerts art exhibits and other events.

Last but not least, the Summer Festival of Acqualoreto, as usual, will be held from August 10<sup>th</sup> through August 15<sup>th</sup> or perhaps the 16<sup>th</sup>. It starts with the huge supper in the piazza on the 10<sup>th</sup> and ends with the fireworks of Ferragosto on the 15<sup>th</sup>, with various other events and opportunities to eat in the piazza in between. We hope to see many of you there. Don't forget to join the Circolo. It is supported largely by its modest membership fees.

We'll sign off for now with one of the later paintings by Carolyn In'tVeld.

