

Fifty years of CNA Varese, an informal birthday celebration

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The Varese branch of the national association of craft trades, **CNA**, has turned 50, and wants to celebrate it “with family”, anyone who helped the association to grow, businesspeople and employees, and anyone who has a reason to celebrate with them. “We’re going to celebrate without rhetoric, without pomp, without outside speeches, or studies, surveys or experts,” the Director of CNA Varese, **Roberta Tajè**, explained. “We want it to be an informal affair, with our companies, our employees and anyone that wants to celebrate this important birthday with us; we’ll talk about how we were, how we are and how we think we’ll be.”

It will be a “human” birthday, for a historic association that, has served local craftspeople since 1966, with 9 offices in Varese Province and in the Upper Milan area, 50 employees, 2500 members, over 1000 traditional services provided per year, 700 sponsorship applications guaranteed per year, and over 10,000 tax return forms completed.

“Our CNA is changing, and we want to be an increasingly strong discussion partner with the authorities,” said the Chairman of CNA Varese, **Franco Orsi**. “This is what our companies want from us, and it’s what the market demands. It’s important to have a strategic horizon that looks a long way ahead, because technological innovations require constant innovation in the initiatives that CNA puts forward.”

There are two events that CNA Varese has organised to mark its anniversary. The first remembers one of the protagonists of many seasons of the associations, who recently passed away: **Giorgio Protasoni**,

the CNA Secretary from 1980 to 1989, and the first Chairman of Fidimpresa (which provides companies with loans), from when it was founded in 1990, until 2000.

On Monday, 13 June, the conference room in the Varese offices in Via Bonini 1 is going to be named after him. The naming ceremony will be attended by Giorgio's relatives, the CNA Chairman and Director, and many of those who worked with Giorgio.

The meeting that **celebrates CNA's first fifty years** is planned for **Sunday 19 June, 2016**, in Varese, in the Napoleonic Villa of Ville Ponti.

The event will start at 10 a.m., with speeches by the CNA Varese Chairman, **Franco Orsi**, and the CNA Lombardy Chairman and former CNA Varese Chairman, **Daniele Parolo**.

At 11.30 a.m., there will also be the award ceremony for CNA/ACS companies and employees: companies that have been members for over 30 years, including some that are as old as the association. The employees being awarded also have over 30 years of service. "And many have as many as 40 years of service."

The final speech of the day will be given by the Chairman of the National branch of the CNA, **Daniele Vaccarino**; it will be his job to give a picture of the association's future and of its role.

di Stefania Radman Translated by Prof. Rolf Cook