



C.I.A.O.

Cultural Italian American Organization
144 Genesee Street, Suite 102-240
Auburn, New York 13021
www.CayugaCountyCIAO.org

Newsletter, January 2019

Officers

Chairman

Paolo Saltarello

Co-Chairman

Tony Gucciardi

Secretary

Tony Tesoro

Recording Secretary

Lynda DeOrio

Corresponding Secretary

Felix Mucedola

Treasurer

Sam Vitale

Financial Secretary

Dick Paulino

Trustees

Matt Bartolotta

Frank DeOrio

John Elice, Jr.

Mike Vasco

Paul Vitale

Sentinels

Giuseppe Casamassa

Vito Charella

Public Relations

Mike Vasco

Chaplain

Father Louis Vasile

Ciao a tutti! Hello everyone!

A reminder that our next membership meeting date is **Monday, January 14 6 pm** Father Nacca Hall, Auburn. PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE!

Buon Anno 2019, pieno di prosperità e buona salute
Happy New Year 2019, full of prosperity and good health

January Dinner/Membership Meeting

January is the month when annual membership dues must be paid. At the **January 14, 2019** meeting a complimentary dinner will be held for members and new members, at which time annual dues can be paid. Membership dues are \$25.00 for single, and \$40.00 for a couple. Checks may be made payable to C.I.A.O. and sent to: C.I.A.O., 144 Genesee Street, Suite 102-240, Auburn, New York, 13021 or brought to the January meeting. If you plan to attend the dinner/membership meeting, please do one of the following to RSVP by Friday January 7: Call corresponding secretary Felix Mucedola at 406-4859, or email coach7068@yahoo.com or Lynda@cayugacountyciao.org with your reservation.

SAVE THE DATE! March 24, 2019

San Giuseppe Festa, Springside Inn, Auburn

Save the date of Sunday, March 24, 2019 for our annual St. Joseph Festa, which will be celebrated with traditional food and a procession. Many guests attend from out of town; please plan to attend! It's the traditions that we need to continue to keep our Italian heritage alive that we have inherited from our *nonni*. The actual St. Joseph's Day is March 18 - CIAO did not choose Sunday March 17 for the date of our event so that our Irish (*Irlandesi*) friends could celebrate their patron saint, St. Patrick. More information will follow on Facebook, our website, and in a future newsletter.

In Memoriam

CIAO Member Jack Bisgrove was an outstanding citizen in our community. He was a very humble person dedicated to his loving family and God. He was very ambitious in funding many developments in Auburn and a very kind and caring person. The City of Auburn was privileged to receive financial support from the Stardust Foundation founded by the Bisgroves. CIAO was very privileged and honored to honor John as their Person of the Year in 2014. May God grant John eternal rest with flying wings.

Notice of C.I.A.O. Elections

Elections for C.I.A.O. Officers and Trustees are scheduled for our Annual Meeting on Monday, January 14, 2018. Any member in good standing who is interested in running for office should contact Paul Vitale at 252-2619. Nominations from the floor may be made at the Annual Meeting. Should there be no contest to the present positions, the slate of officers remains the same.

Sixth Year of C.I.A.O.

C.I.A.O. is now beginning its sixth year. We are very active in our community, sponsoring, supporting and participating in many events to assist others. In order to be a successful organization, these opportunities need membership help. We are thankful for our members who consistently help, and want to encourage all members to volunteer at any of our events. Also, plan to attend our monthly meetings - they are generally no longer than an hour, and refreshments are always served. Currently C.I.A.O. has over 100 members - we would like to continue to grow! We have to continue to spread the roots of our *nonni*-grandparents, the Italian heritage, the great culture of their ancestors that we have inherited, and follow the traditions that with our love, we expand to others to enjoy and learn more.

Buon Natale - Christmas party

Our annual *Buon Natale* Christmas celebration was held at Osteria Salina on Saturday December 8, 2018. Sixty members and guests enjoyed a wonderful evening with *buona amicizia*, good companionship and plenty of good food, accompanied by excellent *vino*. Many thanks to Carolyn Elice and Jay Elice for chairing the event! Homemade *vino* was brought in for a wine tasting. Those who like wine were the judges, selecting their favorite *vino*. The ugly sweater contest was a thrill for those who dared to wear one! The guests also enjoyed the singing of Christmas carols, which is becoming an annual tradition, singing in both Italian and English. The favorite appears to be Dominick the Italian Donkey, who helps *Babbo Natale* - Santa Claus - through the hills of Italy.

As the Christmas season encourages us to give to those who are less fortunate, CIAO members who attended the *fiesta*, in the spirit of Christmas, were kind and generous in assisting an Italian immigrant family, who are CIAO members. The family is having a difficult time working for full compensation, due to their limited status. They are trying their best; hopefully the future days will help them to settle without obstacles. Their appreciation is very deep in recognition of CIAO members' generosity from a raffle and auction held at the *Buon Natale* event, which raised \$325 and was given to the family. One member, as in the past, has donated an amount to help someone else, as have other members. Their thanks have been received.



Italian Heritage Focus

Saint Francis of Assisi designed the first crèche scene in 1223 for his parish. In those days, few books were available and even fewer people could read. To bring the nativity to life, Francis constructed a manger scene in his church, with a live donkey and ox and life size figures of Mary, Joseph and the shepherds kneeling before the infant in his crib.

In Italy, the bearer of gifts became La Befana, an ugly old witch who slid down chimneys and distributed bags of goodies to good children and lumps of coal to bad ones. In more recent years, Santa Claus has become a popular figure in Italy but Babbo Natale will never replace La Befana.

Best of health and speedy recovery to CIAO member Rose Bartolotta who has had some medical procedures. Best wishes for a much healthier MMXIX!

Congratulations - Recently, special honors were given to 275 Master Teachers selected by New York State. CIAO member Joseph Palmiotto was among those teachers who will be included in the New York State Master Teachers Program. Joe will serve a four year term in the program, which was established as a way to support those who teach STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) subjects. Joe's wife Roberta, also a member of CIAO, has just completed a four year Master Teacher program. She is now a Master Teacher Emeritus. Both Joe and Roberta are teachers in the Union Springs Central School District. *Bravi!*

Dicevano I Nostri Nonni

Senza quattrini non si cantano i messe

Money talks