



C.I.A.O.

Cultural Italian American Organization
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www.CayugaCountyCIAO.org

Newsletter, October, 2020

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Monthly Newsletter

Ciao a tutti! Hello everyone!

Our future meetings have been postponed for now; when we are able to set a date, we will contact members by email or phone, and post on Facebook and our website.

Upcoming Fundraiser - to assist St. Francis Parish

Saturday, October 3, 2-6 pm

CIAO Cucina Crew members are prepared to serve once again their specialties to so many *mangioni*, good eaters. Saturday, October 3, from 2 to 6 p.m., a pasta dinner take-out will be held at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Clark Street, Auburn. This event is designed to raise money to assist with the financial strain caused by the three-month closure of the church and the cancellation and postponement of so many events due to the coronavirus pandemic. CIAO is donating all the food items necessary for the dinner, which includes ziti, meatballs, sausage, salad, CIAO's own Italian bread and cookies baked by the Sacred Heart Society. Cost of the dinner is \$15. The total proceeds will go to the parish.

All dinners will be individually packaged and can be picked up outside the entrance of Nacca Hall behind St. Francis Church. To help plan for the amount of food and to accommodate everyone, you are asked to call ahead to Felix and Mary Anne Mucedola (315) 406-4859, or Anna Saltarello at (315) 252-7778, or Mary Chirco at (315) 252-2713. Pasta dinners will be available to others on that day until there are no more. This fundraiser serves the memory of our *nonni* who came from their individual *paese*, totally with empty pockets, but yet with their deep faith and pride, they were able to pave the way to success for the next generations. As they settled in Auburn, they all waited for the time when they were able to build their own church of San Francesco d'Assisi on Clark Street in Auburn, in the year 1907. With a language barrier, they had to attend mass and other religious ceremonies in the basement of St. Mary's Church, *che gioia*, what a joy this was for them when they were able to have a church of their own. *Bravi!* CIAO is very proud to assist Sts. Mary and Martha Parish, and we thank particularly Matteo Bartolotta for contributing, and Rocco Lattanzio of Syracuse, who serves the Auburn area through his Nationwide Insurance office. Rocco donated all the Italian sausage needed for the dinner, made by Dominick's Market in Syracuse. *Grazie a voi amici. Una mano l'ava l'altra e tutte e due lavano il viso.* "One hand washes the other and both hands will wash one's face."

Tomatofest Fundraiser

Together with Tomatofest, Cayuga County Sheriff, and the Auburn Police Department, these organizations will be having another special day for a fundraiser for the food pantries of Cayuga County. CIAO has been asked once again to help the Tomatofest Committee and making our traditional "Pizza Fritte" in order to assist, which will take place at BOCES on West Genesee Street Road on Saturday, October 10, 2020 from 10 am to 2 pm, selling till *tutto finite*, all gone .

Columbus Day Flag Raising

CIAO has planned to have a flag raising ceremony on the south lawn of Auburn's Memorial City Hall, 24 South Street, where flags of other nations are flown alongside the American Stars and Stripes. The ceremony will take place at 9:00 am on the actual Columbus Day, Monday, October 12, 2020, exactly 538 years after Columbus set foot in the new world. Any CIAO members that wish to attend will be most welcomed to participate.

"Buon Onomastico" Happy Feast Day October 4 – San Francesco d'Assisi Patron Saint of Italy - to Francesca Libertella, Frances Visconti, Frank DeOrio and Dr. Frank Vasallo.

ANNUAL CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS DINNER - CANCELLED

CIAO's annual testimonial dinner to commemorate Columbus's discovery of the new world will not be held on Sunday, October 11, 2020. The present situation that exists of the Covid-19 virus does not permit us to fully celebrate these commemorations. The Board had decided to have a smaller celebration to still maintain a continuation of celebrating our Italian heritage and not let the vocal movement that is now vividly working eradicate our history. As many people are still uncomfortable in attending these various functions, the dinner scheduled for Sunday, October 11, 2020 at Osteria Salina has been cancelled. We certainly respect each person's feelings during these uneasy health situations.

In Syracuse, the Columbus Monument Committee will continue to celebrate Columbus Day by placing a wreath at the foot of the Christopher Columbus monument at 11:00 am with local dignitaries and other local organizations participating. Paolo is planning to attend in support. The committee at this time is also fighting to keep the Columbus monument where it is, as many vocal people have asked for its removal. Support is needed! Those that wish to sign a petition in support of leaving the monument, you can visit our website or go directly to the petition at <https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/keep-the-columbus-monument-standing>. There you are able to sign your name in a show of support as Ben Walsh, Mayor of Syracuse, has shown that he supports removing the monument. Included at the bottom of this page is a picture of a poster now placed in many front lawns in Syracuse to save the monument. This can be cut out and mailed to Mayor Walsh, 203 City Hall, 233 E. Washington Street, Syracuse, New York 13202-1473. *Che vergogna!* What a shame. *Evviva Cristoforo Colombo!*

Thank you received from the Old Erie Canal Heritage Park

"On behalf of the entire staff, volunteers and friends of the Port Byron Old Erie Canal Heritage Park, we would like to thank you and your organization for your continued support for the Park. Last Thursday's fried dough event was astounding! I know this wasn't 'your first rodeo' but you are so organized and everything looks and works so smoothly. We can't say enough about your vision and mission to help the community that you are a part of and all the things you do to promote and recognize your heritage. You make hard work into a fun event! We were so overjoyed with the proceeds. Every cent will go to enhance the Park for the enjoyment of all our visitors. Again, thank you so much for your support of our Park. Andrea"

Thank you!

Grazie, tanto, many thanks to our MEMBERS. Our membership remains very strong, with great support as we are in our sixth year. CIAO has received many acknowledgements from the community for all of our participation with many organizations. As members, by remaining on our roster it allows CIAO to remain strong. Our Italian heritage needs to be fruitful and resilient in memory of our *nonni*, who set it in place for all of us - the next generations - to prosper. A lot of appreciation has been extended to CIAO for our continuous assistance. As the pandemic has curtailed many events and activities, CIAO has worked diligently to assist others. No other organizations have contributed so much assistance helping these groups in our community, on many levels. *Sta bene*, very well, as per our motto *caritas cultura*. CIAO has given assistance/fundraisers/contributions to: Three student scholarships, \$500 each; Tomato fest committee – three events, 800 free dinners to the community, a fundraiser for the Erie Canal Museum in Port Byron; two CIAO fundraisers at Rosalie's Cucina, and a Pasta Dinner at St. Francis. In December, there will be a special dinner for the teachers at Tyburn Academy, at the K of C Council 207. Plans were also in place to assist other groups, but the events were cancelled due to the Coronavirus, including the 42nd Infantry Band Concert, the Pop Warner Football/Auburn High School Sport Boosters dinner, and the Stingray Swim Team fundraiser.

Grazie to the following members who have helped during these projects helping others: Casamassas, Joanne Charles, Charellas, Joe and Zachary DeCaro, Carolyn and John (Jay) Elice, Annie Febles, Mario and Carmela Fortunato of Brooklyn, Tom Grasso of Rochester, Pam Harvey, Giuseppe and Francesca Libertella, Maria Lentini, Gina Mironti, Mucedolas, Joe and Roberta Palmiotto, Mike Palmieri, Dick Paulino, Dr. John Ryan, Ralph Regis, Saltarellos, Dr. Anthony Tabone, Mike "Pompiere" Vasco.

