



C.I.A.O.

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

Newsletter, February/March 2021

www.CayugaCountyCIAO.org

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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.

Valentine's Day – San Valentino

We wish you a happy Valentine's day to enjoy the best we can celebrate, at home or other venues. Paolo and Felice with their music will be at Osteria on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, February 12, 13 and 14.



*Auguri per San Valentino
"Happy Valentine's Day"*

To cheer you with pleasant thought,
we wish you a day with all you like best.

Nel profondo mio cuore c'è la tua immagine.



San Giuseppe Festa Day, March 19

The year 2020 has certainly made history in many different ways, due to Covid-19. Not only CIAO but many other organizations, including schools, etc., had to cancel or change their schedules. The St. Joseph feast celebration held annually by CIAO in March was cancelled in 2020, along with other annual CIAO activities. The Board has tentatively set **Sunday, March 21, 2021** as the date to hold an informal *San Giuseppe* dinner in order to keep, as best we can, the tradition of the annual event, while at the same time complying with the capacity regulations of the restaurant. Joe and Roberta Palmiotto have graciously volunteered to again co-chair the celebration. The get together will be held on the late afternoon of Sunday, March 21, at Osteria Salina, with 4 pm cocktails, 5 pm dinner. CIAO members Guillermo and Gabriella Salinas will serve the traditional St. Joseph's dinner. You can make reservations for your own table, for 2, 4, 6 or 8 people, according to your preference. Please call chair Joe Palmiotto at 315-406-2417 with your reservation if you would like to attend. Cost is \$40 per person.

Let's enjoy the best we are able, with the Giuseppees and Giuseppinas. Buon *Onomastico*, Happy Feast Day! *Tanti auguri di benessere e giorni che ci portano a lunghi anni di vita, a voi con il nome di Giuseppe e Giuseppina.*

CIAO membership dues

Dues are due for 2021. If you have not yet sent in your 2021 membership dues, our Treasurer Mr. T (Tony Tesoro) is accepting the yearly dues by mail. Annual memberships are \$25/individual, and \$40 a couple, and can be mailed to CIAO, 144 Genesee Street, Suite 102-240, Auburn, NY 13021. Paolo will be glad to pick up your dues if needed; call him at 315-252-7778. As you all know, due to the Covid-19 restrictions, we were not able to have our annual membership dinner in January, at which time a wonderful dinner is traditionally served. This dinner, which is complimentary to all members, also serves as the time that dues are collected. We will continue to hold the dinner annually, when we are able to congregate safely. *Va bene, capish?* A strong and solid membership continues to strengthen CIAO. We continue to be vibrant in the community and your continuation as a member strengthens our organization. As your dues are received, our Secretary Tony Tesoro will send you the CIAO decal for your vehicle, and a membership card.



The first Valentine card...

...was sent in 1415 by Charles, duke of Orleans to his wife.
He was imprisoned at the time.

Member News

Sympathy – condoglianze - CIAO extends sincere condolences to co-chair Tony Gucciardi in the loss of his brother Ralph. A mass in remembrance of Ralph was offered by CIAO and celebrated in his memory. Sadness is in the hearts of next of kin, with rejoicing of dear and fond memories, deep in our hearts.

Get well wishes – Buon Ricovero - Our best wishes extended to Tommasino (Tom) Grasso in Rochester. Tom is very helpful and participates in many of our events. Best of health and *subito, subito* (quick) recovery. We hope, Tom, that your hospital stay was as short as a hospital gown! *Statte buone*.

Saluti, greetings, from Auburn to Virginia, where CIAO members Ralph and Agata Regis have now set their residency. They were always glad to help and participate in our events. We wish Ralph and Agata the very best, now that they are able to stay close and enjoy their immediate *famiglia, che bello, vicino ella famiglia*, wonderful!

Thank you from Old Erie Canal Heritage Park

"I was privileged to be introduced to a service organization – CIAO (Cultural Italian American Organization) – several years ago. They have been tremendously supportive in assisting us with fundraisers in the past. They have cooked and served our fall fundraiser dinner for the last three years. Through their unselfish efforts, we have been able to raise funds to purchase a smart television for the visitor center, and a second "Peter and Maud" statute for the Erie House. It is so fitting that this organization has "adopted" us as both organizations honor the Italian heritage of the Erie House and the contributions that the Italian immigrants made to the Erie Canal era and to the building of the Port Byron area. This year, instead of having a bake sale, we invited CIAO to hold a fried dough event! To be ready to serve by 11 AM, the members started setting up by 9:30 AM. Paul and Anna Saltarello assisted other members (Tom Grasso included) of CIAO in setting up and cooking the dough. Anna's 92 year old mother came and I thought maybe she would sit in a folding chair in the shade. Boy, was I wrong! She worked all day on her feet, cutting and kneading the dough to be cooked! The dough for the event was donated by Nino's Pizzeria of Port Byron. We are very thankful for this donation, as all proceeds will be used to enhance the Park for the enjoyment of both visitors and staff. After expenses, we were able to deposit \$954.00 from the fried dough event into the bank. A huge thank you to all the CIAO members who made this event successful." -Andrea Seamans

Tomatofest - helping again in 2021

CIAO has once again been contacted by the 2021 TomatoFest committee to assist them in their annual fundraiser. They are very appreciate of our interest in assisting and participating in their events with CIAO's "Pizza Fritte" stand, where we serve the traditional and *deliziose* handmade *pizza fritte*, which is created by the lady members, who have been trained since childhood in their native *Italia*. The scheduled dates to help TomatoFest are May 22, July 17, and September 11, 2021. Keep this in mind and help out if you can on those dates.

The Palace of the Gelato

Il gelato, the Italian ice cream, is the favorite of everyone who visits *Italia*. It is very rich in taste, very smooth and has few calories. Of all the people that Paolo come across that tasted gelato, they would definitely wish to have more and more, like him. As soon as he arrives in Italy, he makes a stop at the *gelateria* and consume an abundance of the gelato. Let's look back to the founding of the *Palazzo del Gelato* in Roma, Italia.

The oldest and grandest *gelateria* in Italy, or in the world, is that of the Fassi *famiglia*. It all began in 1880, when Giacomo Fassi of Rome began to sell ice cream. Initially, the family produced ice. Giovanni Giacomo, whose nickname was "the Royal *Pasticciere*", made all kind of pastries for the Royal family. It was Giovanni who took on the reins to commercialize their product for generations to come, with good fortune. From there onto the next generation, each continued with their own individual responsibility. The *Gelateria* continues to create their gelato, near Piazza Vittorio, on Vie Principe Eugenio. The Palace of the Gelato exists in a large building of 4,000 square feet, the same building that the Red Cross, during World War II, used to serve the famous gelato to American troops in Rome. The Fassi family continues to create the high quality gelato according to the old recipe of 141 years ago. The Fassi *gelateria* has exported their "gustosi" gelato outside Italy, even to Los Angeles, South Korea and Shanghai.

Drive through Dinner to Benefit Tyburn Academy
St. Francis Church (Nacca Hall), 299 Clark Street, Auburn
Saturday, February 27, 2021

Homemade Italian Food prepared by Bob Bruno and Mike Villano
Choice 1: pasta, two meatballs, OR 1 Meatball & 1 Sausage, Salad,
Bread, Cake - \$12
Choice 2: Baked Chicken, Italian Roasted Potatoes, Eggplant, Salad,
Bread, Cake - \$15

For reservations, by Thursday, February 25, please call or text Cindy
Pierce, 315/730-7921

Chuckle of the Month

Men say women can't be trusted too far;
women say men can't be trusted too
near!

About the only time a woman really
succeeds in changing a male is when he's
a baby.