



## C.I.A.O.

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

Newsletter, May 2022

### 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

### Monthly Newsletter

**Ciao a tutti! Hello everyone!**

**Our next meeting will be on Monday, May 9, at 7 pm** at Father Nacca Hall. Refreshments will be served following the meeting. We typically meet the first Monday of the month, but have decided to meet the second Monday in May, due to the St. Joseph Festa on May 1.

### ***San Giuseppe Festa celebrated Sunday, May 1 "Feast of St. Joseph the Worker"***

On Sunday, May 1, 2022, CIAO celebrated the day with about 100 people who attended this special event. This event took the place of the festivities from the traditional St. Joseph's Day on March 19 (note: on March 19, the San Giuseppe Festa, in Italy celebrates Father's Day). This year's celebration was after a two year absence due to Covid, but it all came together in a *grandiose festa*, grand feast, to pay tribute to a fine artisan from the region of Calabria, Italy. CIAO honored Raffaele "Ralph" Rotella, a shoe repairman in Syracuse, where he owns and operates "Discount Shoe Repair." From his store, since 2007, during the Christmas season, thousands of pairs of shoes are collected by Ralph. Through the assistance of the Rescue Mission, many thousands of needy individuals receive these shoes. Last year, 34,000 pairs of shoes were distributed. CIAO proudly honored Ralph in the presence of his family and friends from Syracuse, and now Auburn as well. Ralph, a very kind, simple and humble person, graciously accepted the plaque presented to him. Bravo! *Bravissimo, Calabrese!*

The Festa of St. Joseph was enjoyed by all, with traditional food and ceremony, along with the music of Felix Mucedola on the accordion. We also wish to thank Matteo and Matt Bartolotta for their help at Angelo's Pizzeria to bake the bread of St. Joseph, and fry the *zeppole*. Thank you to Matteo for the donation of breadboards, which were given away during a raffle. Anna Saltarello each year prepares the mix for the *zeppole* and the fava beans, so they may be served in the traditional manner.

*Grazie* to Joe and Roberta Palmiotto, who once again served as chairs for the *festa*, with a well-done job! Our extended *ringrazimenti*/appreciation to members Guillermo Salinas of Osteria Salina, and Jerry Pettigrass of Pettigrass Funeral home for their donation of 4 - \$50 gift certificates to Osteria. Also, thank you to Paulinos for the donation of the serving bottles for the limoncello enjoyed at the dinner.

### **Bocce News**

Once again CIAO will be hosting a summer BOCCE LEAGUE. Plans are underway to start our schedule in the early part of June. For information, call Joe DiVietro at 315-246-4200 or Sam Vitale at 315-406-4312.

### **CIAO scholarships**

CIAO has given a total of 17 scholarships since 2015, and our members are proud of their work giving back to the community. We look forward to again awarding scholarships to deserving area high school seniors at our now annual membership picnic in June.

## ***Fifth Annual Pasta and Game Night a Success!***

On Monday evening, April 11, about 50 members and guests enjoyed good, tasty sauce and pasta, *insalata*, dessert, and *vino*. All those that attended enjoyed *buona compagnia*, good companionship, good food, and playing the dice game LCR, easy and fun for every player! Many thanks to the winners who donated their winnings back to CIAO. *Grazie* to Annie Febles, Frank DeOrio and Rose Bartolotta. Also, CIAO's appreciation to our newest member John Wyant, and to Matteo Bartolotta and Dr. Anthony Tabone, whose generous donations will allow CIAO to continue to assist those in need.

### ***CIAO Cucina Crew***

The Cucina Crew is on the road again, helping to raise funds for the Stingray Swim Team and the Pop Warner Football Team. Two pasta dinners were prepared and served by the Cucina Crew at the Knights of Columbus. It was enjoyed and appreciated by those who attended. The President/Chairman of these two organizations expressed their deep appreciation to CIAO, as a group committed to helping others. Many thanks to the members who helped with the Pasta Game night and also those that served at the fundraiser at the Knights: Casamassas, Mucedolas, Paulinos, Gina Mironti, John Elice, Jr., Annie Febles, Mary Lentini, Gucciardis, "*Pompiere*" Vasco, Saltarellos, Tom Grasso of Rochester, and Joanne Charles.

### ***Member News***

*Augori*/Best Wishes for many more happy birthdays to Dick Paulino, Matteo Bartolotta and Tony Tesoro!

*Complimenti/Auguroni* – Congratulations on their Golden plus 4 year anniversary to Rosa and Matteo Bartolotta on their 54 years of matrimony. From Sicilia to Auburn, New York to marry Rosa Vitale at St. Francesco Assisi Church in Auburn with Father John Nacca officiating. *Pé cent'anni!*

*Venvenuti* – welcome to CIAO John Wyant, of Mesa, Arizona, sponsored by his sister Carolynn Elice, and Father Paul Alciati (honorary member), sponsored by Lynda DeOrio. Father Paul recently retired from St. Margaret's Catholic Church in Homer, and continues to fill in as needed at Sacred Heart and St. Ann's churches in Auburn and Owasco. Welcome!

### ***CIAO Pizza Fritte - Memorial Day***

Pizza fritte, CIAO's specialty old fashioned fried dough, will be fried and served on Memorial Day, on the front lawn of the Knights of Columbus home in the Genesee Street/Market Street area. After an absence of two years, CIAO is returning to make some extra dough (\$!) from Angelo's Pizzeria prepared dough. *Stá Bene!* All well! This particular event helps CIAO generate funds to contribute to those who seek our assistance. Tell your friends, *amici, zio, and cugini* to stop by and visit us, including yourself! Other local not-for-profit groups have contacted CIAO to be part of their event celebrations, with our Pizza Fritte stand. We are happy to help! Please call Felix Mucedola at 315-406-4859 if you would like to help that day.

### ***Buona giornate, della mamma – Happy Mother's Day***

On Sunday, May 8, once again we commemorate a special day, selected to honor mamma. Our first heartbeat began through the heartbeat of our dear mother, whose care and love was extended to us from that very beginning. "*Sangue del mio sangue*" is a song by the old "Gaylords" whose words describe the love of mamma for her children. *Sangue del mio sangue* - blood of my blood you are; *ti voglio bene e tu la sai* - you know of how much I love you. *Vita della mia vita io t'è elo data e tu lo sai* - Life of my life you are, for I gave you life; *tu sei il cuore della mia vita* – you are the heart of my life...and it continues expressing the deep love that we all have shared during our lifetime, the guidance, the respect, *amore per la famiglia*, love for the family. *Grazie mamma, con tutto il cuore*. With all our love, from the depth of our hearts.

### ***Our Chaplain's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversario of ordination***

CIAO proudly congratulates our chaplain Father Lou Vasile, on his 50<sup>th</sup> year as a servant of Christ. Father Lou is one of our local boys who entered the seminary at a very young age, dedicating his live to shepherd the many parishes that each priest serves with love for their "Shepherd," to guide the faithful in all their capacities. *Grazie*, Father Lou, for your continuous energy serving the Catholic community in our area. *Che Dio ti Benedico!* May our Lord bless you for many more years. *Pé cent'anni!*

### ***Stay up to date with our website and Facebook page!***

Remember to check out our website at [www.CayugaCountyCIAO.org](http://www.CayugaCountyCIAO.org), and to "like" us on Facebook to see pictures of our recent events! Also, if you would like to receive the newsletter and other reminders via email, please send your email address to [lynda@cayugacountyciao.org](mailto:lynda@cayugacountyciao.org) and you will be added to the email list!