



C.I.A.O.

Cultural Italian American Organization
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www.CayugaCountyCIAO.org

Newsletter, August, 2024

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Monthly Newsletter

Ciao a tutti! Hello everyone!

Next meeting - Wednesday, August 7, 7:00 PM, Father Nacca Hall

Special Presentation - Our August meeting will include a special presentation coordinated by Jay Elice. His friend will present, "Latin the mother language of Italian, the root language of the west." The presentation will include the history of Latin, why it is still used in science and academics, pronunciation in classical and in "vulgar latin" (where Italian, its dialects and other romance languages come from), and some readings from medieval times that use Latin rules but are modern languages.

Christopher Columbus Day Celebration for CIAO Annual Recognition Dinner

CIAO announces that our annual recognition dinner will be held on Sunday, October 13, 2024, and will be held at Springside Inn in Auburn, with enjoyable cuisine and other tasty specialties selected by CIAO. CIAO board members recently met and unanimously agreed to accept the nomination of Sue Dwyer, recently retired County Clerk, for this year's honoree. Sue has continuously served the residents of Cayuga County with dedication, and no hesitation in assisting anyone who visited her office during her 20 years of tenure. Sue was elated to receive this honor from CIAO, and CIAO feels privileged to honor her! Set the date: Sunday, October 13, 2024, Springside Inn, time 5 pm. *Arrivederci!*

On the same night, another lady will be recognized for her ambitions during her lifetime, soon reaching 103 years young! Grace Daloia will also share the evening ceremonies, possibly to hear her voice with one of her songs from the many minstrel shows she took part in - those live stage presentations that many local people participated in for fundraising. More related information about this event will be in the next newsletter. Reservations only, no tickets sold. The price will remain at \$45 per reservation made, and a program book will also be printed.

That same week, CIAO is making plans to extend the celebration through Monday, Columbus Day, October 14, 2024. Plans are to have a concert on that evening by the 10th Mountain Division Concert Band from Fort Drum, joined by harpist Lucia Galdi Marone, of Philadelphia. Lucia is a talented harpist, as she recently brought other harpists to Paolo's hometown in Biccari, in the Puglia region, for a unique harp festival in the town of only 3,500 residents. It was a big success as people traveled from all over to attend the one week festival. Lucia's father immigrated to Philadelphia, while Paolo emigrated to Auburn at the same time in the early 1960's. They were close family friends and neighbors. They remained in contact through the years. Stay tuned!

This story leads to another...

Lucia and Paolo have been in contact and have made arrangements for their town priest, Don Leonardo Catalano, to visit the Philadelphia area, where most of the people from Biccari settled. Few others settled in Auburn, such as Cappiellos, Iacovinos, and DiVietros. Melissa Morabito Geherin has actually visited the town, becoming very interested in her heritage. Her aunt Ida Cervo was from Biccari, too!

Plans made by Paolo and Lucia are to have the priest be in Philadelphia, visiting and celebrating mass there, with a procession and dinner. Paolo and Anna will be picking up Don Leonardo and his mamma, with three other *paesani*, as they will be guests of the Saltarellos. With all the visits that the group will be making with the Saltarellos, CIAO board members have agreed to host a pasta dinner on Sunday, August 25, following a mass to be celebrated by Don Leonardo, at 5 pm at St. Francis Church. The mass will be shared in Italiano and English, with the church mass booklets in English and Italiano.

In years past, the old Italian residents of Auburn were so glad when they were able to attend mass in Italiano, celebrated by Fathers Gelbani, Moia, and John Nacca. The scheduled mass and dinner will be an experience, as the Italian priest visiting will also enjoy his visit sharing the celebration with the parishioners in Auburn. We hope that you will be able to attend and visit with Father Leonardo, mamma and *paesani* during their visit. CIAO is hosting the pasta dinner for this fine occasion - a time to share an afternoon/evening with "*buona compagna*" good friendship and memories.

CIAO PIZZA FRITTE for St. Peter and Paul Ukranian Catholic Church

On Sunday, July 14, 2024, CIAO once again extended their hand to the Ukrainian church for their annual church picnic, which has been held for many years as their fundraiser. CIAO was glad to once again be there to make the traditional Italian pizza fritte to assist and generate funds for the church. The 4-5 hours of constant heat of the day, and the burning flame/oil heat to fry the pasta dough, allowed CIAO to once again donate the proceeds to the St. Peter and Paul Ukrainian church families, receiving \$1,100 from the afternoon event. Pasta dough received from Kosta's Bar and Grille, and Giuseppe's Pizzeria on Owasco Street helped CIAO to make that much dough \$\$\$, which was very much appreciated by Father Vasile Colopelnic. CIAO can make these generous donations mainly from the pizza fritte stand, the group standing, making and frying in hot oil the pizza fritte to generate funds for us, CIAO. HELLO OUT THERE, anyone else wish to help? If your time permits, it would alleviate our constant working at these events to meet our CIAO mission to extend our help/assistance to others. A huge *grazie* to those who helped this event for the Ukrainian families on a very hot day: Mucedolas, Gucciardis, Casamassas, Dr. John Ryan, Annie Febles, Sue Gatto, mother/son team Carolyn and John Elice, *Pompiere* Vasco, Arlene Ryan, Joanne Charles, Saltarellos and particularly the rolling pin queen, Gloria Alano, who throughout the day stretched with all her passion hundreds of the pizza doughs to create CIAO's best pizza fritte, loved by all!

CIAO 10 years of activities

As CIAO has been very active since the very beginning, 10 years go, we continue to be busy with events and fundraisers for CIAO and others. It takes much cooperation, participation and work involved. We hope that if anyone wishes to be part of it, let us know, call Felix Mucedola, as he is always willing to be the contact person, 315-406-4859, or call Paolo at 315-252-7778, need not to worry of phone call cost, now it's all included in our phone/internet system. *Grazie! Ringraziamenti* - Our appreciation for the many events that are programmed and put forward, many members are there to help and others who help by donating however they are able to assist. *Grazie* - thanks to the following: Angelo's Pizzeria, Mark's Pizzeria, Giuseppe's Pizzeria, Mamma Maria New York Pizzeria, all of Auburn, Kosta's Bar and Grill, Nino's of Auburn, Sam Giacona Law, Jerry Pettigrass, Rocco Latanzio, Fathers Felician, Vasile, Alciati, and Father Lioi for the assistance he gives CIAO for Nacca Hall, Osteria Salina, town of Owasco for the use of the bocce court and picnic shelter, Knights of Columbus 207, Bartolottas, Mario Fortunato of Brooklyn, and the Cayuga County Health department for their assistance with our permits.

August 10, 2024 is Auburn Founders Day, the annual event held in downtown Auburn, where many activities have been planned to share the enjoyment of the many visiting the area and attending the event, which CIAO has been a part of from the very first Founders Day. CIAO pizza fritte stand will once again be there to help raise funds for the Willard Chapel restoration committee. Those who wish to join and be part of helping to make pizza fritte, please call Felix Mucedola at 315-406-4859 and join in. Other ways to help out are to stop by and patronize CIAO, even for takeouts.

CIAO Scholarship Picnic June 24, 2024

It was a well attended event where seven students from our Auburn area schools received their awards, as members and family members of the recipients enjoyed the fine afternoon. The day's event was held at the Owasco town pavilion, in the afternoon hours when and where the presentations were made by scholarship chair Tony Gucciardi, and his committee: Mary Ann Mucedola, Arlene Ryan and Toni Colella. All were happy to share their time presenting the awards to Ella Noble, Riccardo Caruso, Anthony LoMascolo, Carter DeRosa, Ashley Meyers, Caroline Smith, Ariana Bartolotta, and Mary Vitale. To see pictures of the picnic and read the winning essays, visit our website at www.CayugaCountyCIAO.org, and click on the Scholarship link. A total of \$3,000 was specifically set aside for these scholarships, funds mainly raised from the pizza fritte events. A very worthy cause for area students by CIAO!

Annunzio - announcement - Vice Consul Italians Rochester Vincenzo Scollo, 585-491-4244, 919 South Winton Road, Rochester, NY 14618. Our newly appointed Vice Consul of Italy to serve Rochester and other counties outside the Rochester area is the above gentleman, receiving the honor to represent the Italian government abroad. The office is under the Italian government auspices, to assist Italians who still hold their Italian passport, and have other needs in relation to obtaining Italian second nationality, or for any property transfer in Italy from an inheritance received.

Member News

Benvenuti welcome to CIAO - Our newest members are Paula Giuliano, sponsored by Carol Russell and Joanne Charles, Thomas Riddlesworth of Bolton, CT, sponsored by Georgianna Caliendo, and George DeChick, sponsored by Joanne Charles.

Sympathy/Condolences Our sincere condolences to the Tony and Joyce LoBisco families. Both Tony and Joyce have been members of CIAO from the beginning until just passing away, a few months from each other.

As a powerful storm hit the residents in Rome, NY, many homes and buildings received heavy damages. Our CIAO members Giuseppe and Francesa Libertella, as one time owners and operators of a bakery, the properties they still owned received damages as a total loss, in the downtown Rome area. We extend to them our encouragement during these difficult times, as they will proceed to their best, as a blessing no one was hurt.