



C.I.A.O.

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

Newsletter, May, 2025

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Ciao a tutti! Hello everyone!

Next meeting Wednesday, May 7, 6:30 PM, Father Nacca Hall, Auburn

San Giuseppe Festa Sunday, May 4, Osteria Salina, 16 State Street

"Feast of St. Joseph the Worker"

The Feast of St. Joseph in the Roman Catholic Church is celebrated on March 19 and May 1, on which day for the Italian population is Labor Day. This coincides with St. Joseph the Worker. CIAO has chosen to celebrate a Saint Joseph Day, which will take place on **Sunday, May 4, 2025, 5:00 p.m., at Osteria Salina on State Street in Auburn.** Once again, Joe and Roberta Palmiotto have taken on the responsibility to chair the festivities. Reservations are required, no tickets will be given. To RSVP, email Joe Palmiotto at joe@cayugacountyciao.org, or call Felix Mucedola at 315-406-4859. No admission without RSVP, sorry! **Deadline to RSVP is April 30, 2025, and seating is limited to 70-80 people.** Payment is required at time of reservation, and mail your check payable to CIAO to 144 Genesee Street, Suite 102-240, Auburn, NY 13021. The menu is as follows: caprese salad, garlic bread, *arancini*, mussels, eggplant rollatini, chicken francaise, tenderloin, side of potatoes. The pasta will be Osteria's specialty, orichette with sausage and rapini, and vodka sauce pasta. There will also be sardines, salad, CIAO's St. Joseph's zeppole bread, ceci beans roasted and lupinis, and tiramisu for dessert. Please keep in mind that CIAO does not make any profit on these events. Our interest is to promote our Italian heritage, continuing to keep those traditions alive.

April Meeting/Old Fashioned Pasta Dinner and Sauce Maker's Night

Our April meeting included *buona compagnia*/good companionship and delicious pasta sauce enjoyed by all those attending. CIAO "taste testers" chose what to try from each of the eight various sauces, taking the plain pasta and covering it with their favorite sauce. One member took eight rigatoni, applying a different sauce to each one, tasting them, and then proceeded to take more pasta with her chosen sauce. *Mamma mia! Che Mangione!* Very clever! When the "People's Choice" votes were counted, to everyone's surprise, a special ribbon/medal and a bag of delicious Baci chocolates were awarded to the "People's Choice" winner, the smiling "*pompiere*" Mike Vasco, who was on cloud nine for his winning Alfredo sauce recipe. The other participants are preparing for the 2026 competition, all in fun/*divertimento*! Sauce makers were: Donatina Casamassa – sausage sauce; John Elice – garlic sauce; Felix Mucedola – calamari sauce; Frank DeOrio – puttanesca sauce; Anna Saltarello – *aglio e olio*; Mike Iannelli – tomato basil; Paolo – red clam sauce. Thank you for participating! It was a fun night! Thank you to our Social Committee for organizing this fun evening – Carolyn Elice, Janet Vassalo, and Lynda DeOrio.

Not only did the adults present enjoy the sauce/*ragu* served, but even a very special little 13 month old, Aurora Iannelli, daughter of Michael Iannelli (The Rev) and Dr. Elysia Mignelli (Brookside Veterinary) who brought the little *principessa* to enjoy the Italian style pasta, *fatta in casa*/home prepared. Be sure to mark your calendar for Pasta Maker's Night the first Wednesday of April, 2026!

Pizza Fritte

CIAO will assist the Cayuga Museum on Genesee Street for its grand re-opening on **Saturday, May 3**. The Museum will host a special celebration for the community, featuring food trucks, and CIAO will provide our own traditional pizza fritte for everyone to enjoy. CIAO will donate the proceeds to the Museum to support their endeavors and projects. Anyone interested in helping, please call Felix Mucedola at 315-406-4859. *Grazie, Felice*; another special assistance to support our community.

Memorial Day, **Monday May 26th**, CIAO will once again return to the frontage of the K of C Council 207 on Market Street where for the past many years CIAO shares a good fraternal relationship with the Knights. We will be preparing and selling our own traditional *pizza fritte*. It will be very beneficial for CIAO on this day, for the profits enable us to replenish the treasury for other projects, such as scholarships, etc.. The *pizza fritte bancarella*/stand will begin serving at 11:00 am, until sold out. Anyone wishing to help is most welcome; please call Felix Mucedola, 315-406-4859.

The making of the *pizza fritte* will continue in the summer season as CIAO has been invited once again by the St. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Church to participate in their traditional annual picnic. As in the past, the net profit for this day will be totally donated to the church in their endeavor. *Bravi! Cultura/Caritas*.

Bocce Bocce

Bocce season will resume for 2025. Everyone who played (teams) in 2024 is welcome to return to the Owasco town bocce courts. We are very happy to have the continuation of our weekly get-togethers, and co-chairs Frank DeOrio and John Murtari have volunteered to make all necessary preparations. Frank (315-729-1883/fdeorio@gmail.com) and John (315-224-1240/john.murtari@gmail.com) will be glad to receive your calls or email regarding your participation. A meeting will be scheduled in early June to review the rules or any changes the players would like to discuss. **PLEASE NOTE: Bocce night will be on Tuesday**, as suggested by the Town Board, to ease traffic. Additionally, the committee thought it would accommodate players who typically attend other venues on Thursday night. The CIAO Bocce League 2024 consisted of 10 teams; we hope to continue at the same level. *Grazie* to Frank and John!

CIAO Hosting a Band Concert

CIAO once again is proud to bring music to the Auburn community on **Wednesday, July 9, 2025**, at 7:00 pm at Hoopes Park in Auburn. In case of inclement weather, the concert will be held at the Auburn Junior High auditorium on Franklin Street. The concert will feature the U.S. Army Reserve Band, which has visited Auburn in the past and is ready once again to showcase its instruments for the people in our community. It is a great pleasure for CIAO to present the band that a local music teacher, Sgt. Jerry Fitzgerald, now retired, continues to tour with his musician colleagues. The musicians will be treated to a delicious Italian dinner as in the past. We hope many will do their best to attend this event sponsored by CIAO, your active organization. Please be sure to bring your own chairs to the Hoopes Park location.

Festa della Mamma - Mother's Day

A day to honor mothers goes far back in history. Early Christians set aside a special day to honor Mary, the Mother of Christ. For many years, "Mothering Sunday" was held in honor of St. Anne, the mother of the Virgin Mary. On this day, children would go "a-mothering," and take flowers, presents, cakes and cookies to their mothers. In Italy, Mother's Day is not so much a commercial holiday as it is a special day to spend with *mamma*. The Italian proverbs to define her importance are "*Le mamme sono angeli in allenamento*," Moms are angels in training; *La mamma e l'anima, chi la perde non la guadagna*," One's mother and one's soul - when lost, it can never be restored.

