



Cultural Italian American Organization
P.O. Box 1005
Auburn, NY 13021
www.CayugaCountyCIAO.org

Newsletter, October, 2026

Monthly Newsletter

Ciao a tutti! Hello everyone!

Next meeting - Wednesday, October 7, 6:30 pm

Father Nacca Hall, 303 Clark Street, Auburn

Christopher Columbus Day Celebration - October 11, 2026

As CIAO makes the final arrangements for our annual dinner in conjunction with Christopher Columbus Day, reservations are still available for Sunday, October 11, 2026, at the Springside Inn. A cash bar will begin at 5:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m. This year's honorees are Dr. Paul Fallon and Bruno Ruscio. We will gather together to reconnect with old *amici* and, most importantly, to celebrate the values of our Italian heritage while commemorating the historic voyage of Cristoforo Colombo more than 500 years ago.

Proceeds from the evening will help support CIAO's ongoing charitable activities and contributions in many different ways. Reservations are still available by calling Jo Anne Charles at 315-729-6360. Please note that there will be no admission at the door without a paid reservation, as CIAO is responsible for the total number of reservations given to the Springside Inn. *Arrivederci!*

CIAO to Be Honored by Tyburn Academy – Tuesday, October 20, 2026

CIAO has received wonderful recognition from the Board of Directors of Tyburn Academy for the organization's continued dedication to raising funds and supporting the Academy for more than 25 years. CIAO has always been a vibrant group, whether simply participating or working at the many events held throughout the years. Our members have worked to assist not only Tyburn Academy, but also many other groups in the Auburn community and beyond. CIAO has received much praise and appreciation for these many years of service.

CIAO will be honored at Tyburn Academy's annual Sports Dinner on Tuesday, October 20, 2026. The Board of Directors unanimously chose to recognize CIAO for its many years of dedication, especially for preparing and serving special dinners at the annual event sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 207 in support of the Academy of the Immaculate Conception. This is a very special recognition for CIAO and reflects the organization's continued efforts and commitment to serving others in our community. Anyone interested in attending may contact Tyburn Academy at 315-252-2934. Tyburn Academy is an independent Catholic junior/senior high school.

Officers

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Tony Tesoro

Member News

Sympathy/Condolences – CIAO extends their deepest sympathy to the Ricci family in the loss of their matriarch, Patricia Ricci, the mother of CIAO member Paul Ricci.

Congratulations/Congratulazione – As a CIAO member since the very beginning, John Klink receives a *bravo* for being the recipient of the Marvin A. Rapp Award for Distinguished Trustee Service, one of the highest honors in his line of service. John has served as a trustee at Cayuga Community College for 11 years, and also served on the Cayuga County Community College Foundation Board of Directors.

CIAO Buon Natale Festa

In more than six weeks will be the beginning of the *festa natalizie*, Christmas celebrations. CIAO's Buon Natale celebration date for this year is Saturday, December 5, 2026. The menu and the evening event will be enjoyed as before. More information with details in our November newsletter. Any member wishing to attend may set this date aside, *va bene*, OK!

Riscossa Pasta and a Master of Italian Gastronomy

On July 15 at Palazzo Chigi in Rome, the Italian government honored ten Masters of Italian Gastronomy, recognizing excellence in areas including wine, olive oil, bread, pastry, gelato, pizza, cheese, and pasta. Among the honorees was Margherita Mastromauro, president of Pastificio Riscossa, who received the prestigious title of "Master of the Art of Italian Pasta." She is the first pasta maker and woman in Italy to receive this national honor. Riscossa Pasta has been a family tradition for four generations, with its roots dating back to 1890 in Corato, Apulia, in the province of Bari. Today, Margherita and her brother Fabio continue that tradition while introducing new products and maintaining the company's commitment to quality, sustainability, and authentic Italian pasta-making.

Greco and Sons began importing Riscossa to the United States in January 2026, bringing in its first shipment of 40,000 pounds of pasta. As president, Margherita, together with her brother Fabio, the company's vice president, continues to respond to changing consumer needs through product innovation while maintaining Riscossa's commitment to quality and environmental responsibility. The company offers specialty products such as gluten-free pasta, as well as type 00 flour for pizza and desserts, while its traditional pasta is made from 100 percent durum wheat semolina and water, with no preservatives or unnecessary additives. Riscossa also follows rigorous third-party certification standards and maintains full product traceability from production through the finished product. Its traditional pasta is made without GMOs and has a high protein content of 14 percent, reflecting the simplicity and quality of traditional Italian pasta-making. *Taken from "La Gazetta Italiana," September 2026.*

Columbus Day New York History - 1892 NYC

New York City's Columbus Day tradition dates to 1892, when the city marked the 400th anniversary of Columbus's Caribbean landing with a week of celebrations, including a naval parade, Brooklyn Bridge fireworks, music festivals, and the first Columbus Day Parade. That parade featured thousands of public and Catholic schoolchildren, military groups, 29 marching bands, and 350 Native American students. That same year, President Benjamin Harrison proclaimed a national "Discovery Day," while New York unveiled the Christopher Columbus monument at present-day Columbus Circle. Funded by an Italian-American newspaper and sculpted by Gaetano Russo, the monument features a marble statue of Columbus atop a 70-foot granite column decorated with images of his three ships. Columbus Day later became a federal holiday in 1937.

Dicevano I Nostri Nonni

Far d'una mosca un Elefante

Don't make a mount out of a molehill

Actual translation – Don't try to create an elephant out of a fly!