



NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER dicembre 2019

NOVEMBER MEETING

Reunione ottobre

Our November Membership Meeting was our annual Italian Game Night, hosted by member, Tom Fioritto. Tom divided the members into four teams. The game was called the "All in the Italian Family Feud" roughly played like the real "Family Feud" only the questions were based on Italian Trivia. Team 1 was the winner for the evening, and once again, the winning team included Mario Fioritto.

As always, many thanks to Tom Fioritto for doing all the research for this game.

OSU v. U of M FOOTBALL GAME

On Saturday, 30 November, AIH Charities had their Ohio State v. University of Michigan Football Game \$4,000 Pool. This year we just had the Big Board Pool with no party. There was a revised pay-out format where there was a pay-out for every score change.

With such a high scoring game, there were 26 interim payouts by my count and a final payout at the end of the game. As promised, all \$4,000 was awarded.

Congrats to Bill Petrello, The new format worked very well and provided an additional level of excitement to the game.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Prossimi eventi

DECEMBER dicembre

Note: Because of the Christmas Holidays, there will be no Executive Committee Meeting and no Membership Meeting in December.

8 December, Sunday:

AIH Family Christmas Party at Manakiki Country Club from 11:00a to 4:00p. The Co-Chairs are Don Rapposelli and Richard O'Keefe.

Reservations are required

See attached flyer

JANUARY gennaio

15 January, Wednesday

AIHC Executive Committee Meeting at Pastina Rustic Italian Restaurant @ 5:30p.

22 January, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting at The Mentor Firefighters' Museum @ 6:00p.

29 January, Wednesday:

AIH Membership Meeting at Pine Ridge Country Club @ 6:30p. The speaker will be Mr. Janson Pund, an NRA Instructor.

FEBRUARY febbraio

2 February, Sunday

AIH Charities NFL Championship Football Game, 100 Square Board. As with the 2019 OSU v. Michigan Football Game, there will be no party, just the board that everyone is invited to take part in.

This is the first of our Charities three annual fund raisers.

See attached flyer

19 February, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting at The Mentor Firefighters' Museum @ 6:30p.

28 February, Wednesday:

AIH Membership Meeting at Pine Ridge Country Club @ 6:30p. The speaker will be Ms. Cindy Lindberg from Grand River Cellars.

MARCH marzo

18 March, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting at The Mentor Firefighters' Museum @ 6:30p.

25 March, Wednesday:

AIH Membership Meeting at Pine Ridge Country Club @ 6:30p. The speaker is TBD.

APRIL aprile

4 April, Saturday:

AIH Charities "Italian Night" at Villa Croatia at the American-Croatian Lodge in Eastlake. Doors will open at 6:00p. The event is coordinated by Rio DeGennaro.

This is the second of our Charities three annual fund raisers.

Reservations are required

15 April, Wednesday

AIHC Executive Committee Meeting at Pastina Rustic Italian Restaurant @ 5:30p.

22 April, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting at The Mentor Firefighters' Museum @ 6:30p.

29 April, Wednesday:

AIH Membership Meeting at Pine Ridge Country Club @ 6:30p. The speaker will be Bob DiBiasio, Senior Vice President, Public Relations for the Cleveland Indians.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Compleanni di dicembre

Dennis LoConti.....	11
Bob Andreano.....	14
Jamie DiFrancesco.....	19
Dennis Rosa.....	24
Bill Cheraso.....	28

When you see these members this month, be sure to wish them buon compleanno.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

salute e benessere

We are blessed to have no names to report this holiday season.

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED

Recordando quelli che sono passati

Below are the members and member's family who have passed away from 1 December 2018 through 1 December 2019. Please take a moment to remember them and say a prayer for their surviving families.

December 2018

Member Anthony Iliano's Sr.'s mother, and member Anthony Iliano's Jr.'s grandmother, Rosemarie passed away during the last week of November. Please keep the Iliano family in your thoughts and prayers.

January 2019

Member Tony Cicirella's mother, Almenia, passed away on 16 January 2019.

February 2019

Member Glenn Pizzuti's mother, Evelyn, passed away on 1 February 2019 at the age of 91.

Member Antonio Guerrieri's wife of 51 years, Eleonora, passed away 6 February 2019.

April 2019

Member Mike LaMalfa's sister, Maria Angela Baran (nee LaMalfa) passed away on Friday, 19 April 2019 at the age of 92.

May 2019

Member Frank Stinziano's brother, Kenneth R. Stinziano, passed away on Sunday, 5 May 2019 at the age of 71.

Member Sal Corbo passed away on 10 May 2019 at the age of 76.



NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER dicembre 2019

Member Andrew (Bill) Cianfaglione passed away on 30 May 2019 at the age of 62.

June 2019

Member Joe Oliveri passed away on 22 June 2019 at the age of 90.

July 2019

Member Bob Andreano's Father-in-Law, Paul D. Hrics, passed away on 26 July 2019 at the age of 89.

August 2019

Recently deceased member Joe Dardis' wife, Christine Dardis passed away on August 17th at the age of 97.

Member Bob Studniarz' sister, Anita Orndorff passed away on August 26 at the age of 68. She was also Jim Federico's sister-in-law as well as Tom Fioritto's first cousin.

September 2019

Member Glenn Pizzuti's father, August Pizzuti, passed away on 19 September 2019 at the age of 96.

October 2019

Former Member and one of the Founders of AIH, John A. Avena, passed away on 16 October 2019 at the age of 91.

Member Doctor Ronald J. Taddeo passed away on 27 October 2019 at the age of 85.

WINTER SOLSTICE

December 21 is the 355th day of the year (356th in leap years) in the Gregorian calendar. 10 days remain until the end of the year. In the Northern Hemisphere, December 21 is usually the shortest day of the year and is sometimes regarded as the first day of winter.

THE WRIGHT BROTHER'S FLIGHT

The Wright brothers – Orville (August 19, 1871 – January 30, 1948) and Wilbur (April 16, 1867 – May 30, 1912) – were two American aviation pioneers generally credited with inventing, building, and flying the world's first successful airplane. They made the first controlled, sustained flight of a powered, heavier-than-air aircraft with the *Wright Flyer* on December 17, 1903, four miles south of Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. In 1904–05, the brothers developed their flying machine into the first practical fixed-wing aircraft, the *Wright Flyer III*. Although not

the first to build experimental aircraft, the Wright brothers were the first to invent aircraft controls that made fixed-wing powered flight possible.

The brothers' breakthrough was their creation of a three-axis control system, which enabled the pilot to steer the aircraft effectively and to maintain its equilibrium. This method remains standard on fixed-wing aircraft of all kinds. From the beginning of their aeronautical work, the Wright brothers focused on developing a reliable method of pilot control as the key to solving "the flying problem". This approach differed significantly from other experimenters of the time who put more emphasis on developing powerful engines. Using a small homebuilt wind tunnel, the Wrights also collected more accurate data than any before, enabling them to design more efficient wings and propellers. Their first U.S. patent did not claim invention of a flying machine, but a system of aerodynamic control that manipulated a flying machine's surfaces.

Information taken from 2019 Wikipedia

FESTIVUS

Festivus was conceived by author and editor Daniel O'Keefe, the father of TV writer Dan O'Keefe, and was celebrated by his family as early as 1966. While the Latin word *festivus* means "excellent, jovial, lively", and derives from *festus*, meaning "joyous; holiday, feast day", *Festivus* in this sense was coined by the elder O'Keefe. According to him, the name "just popped into my head". In the original O'Keefe tradition, the holiday would take place to celebrate the anniversary of Daniel O'Keefe's first date with his future wife, Deborah. The phrase "a Festivus for the rest of us" originally referred to those remaining after the death of the elder O'Keefe's mother, Jeanette, in 1976; i.e., the "rest of us" are the living, as opposed to the dead.

Festivus is now a secular holiday celebrated on December 23 as an alternative to the pressures and commercialism of the Christmas season. Originally created by author Daniel O'Keefe, Festivus entered popular culture after it was made the focus of the 1997 *Seinfeld* episode "The Strike", which O'Keefe's son, Dan O'Keefe, co-wrote.

The non-commercial holiday's celebration, as depicted on *Seinfeld*, occurs on December 23

and includes a Festivus dinner, an unadorned aluminum Festivus pole, practices such as the "Airing of Grievances" and "Feats of Strength", and the labeling of easily explainable events as "Festivus miracles". The episode refers to it as "a Festivus for the rest of us".

It has been described both as a parody holiday festival and as a form of playful consumer resistance. Journalist Allen Salkin describes it as "the perfect secular theme for an all-inclusive December gathering"

Information taken from 2019 Wikipedia

DECEMBER FESTIVALS AND HOLIDAYS IN ITALY

The first major holiday in Italy in December is the Immaculate Conception on December 8th, but December's main holiday is Christmas. It's one of the more important dates on the Italian holiday calendar, although the most important holiday of the Christmas season is actually Epiphany on January 6th. On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, many Italians spend time with family, but you can join in on Christmas Mass said in churches throughout the country. There are also often religious processions and bonfires, as well as Christmas markets set up in piazzas. Because Italians give gifts on January 6th as well as December 25th, those markets are also typically up and doing a brisk trade through the entire month of December.

SPECIAL DAYS IN DECEMBER

Sun, 1 Dec.....	Eat a Red Apple Day
Mon, 2 Dec.....	Frittars Day
Wed, 4 Dec.....	Wear Brown Shoes Day
Fri, 6 Dec.....	Microwave Oven Day
Sat, 7 Dec.....	Letter Writing Day
Sun, 8 Dec.....	Immaculate Conception
Mon, 9 Dec.....	Christmas Card Day
Fri, 13 Dec.....	Official Lost and Found Day
Tue, 17 Dec.....	Wright Brothers Day
Fri, 20 Dec.....	Ugly Sweater Day
Mon, 23 Dec.....	Festivus Day
Tue, 24 Dec.....	Eggnog Day
Wed, 25 Dec.....	Christmas
Thu, 26 Dec.....	Thank You Note Day
Tue, 31 Dec.....	Make Up Your Mind Day

Data taken from timeanddate.com



WHAT ELSE HAPPENED ON DECEMBER 25TH

Other events on that happened on December 25th

- 336 – First documented sign of a Christmas celebration in Rome.
- 1758 – Halley's Comet is sighted by Johann Georg Palitzsch, confirming Edmund Halley's prediction of its passage. This was the first passage of a comet predicted ahead of time.
- 1776 – George Washington and the Continental Army crossed the Delaware River at night to attack Hessian forces serving Great Britain at Trenton, New Jersey, the next day.
- 1826 – The Eggnog Riot at West Point, the United States Military Academy, concludes after beginning the previous evening.

Other births that occurred on December 25th

- 1821 – Clara Barton, American nurse and humanitarian, founder of the American Red Cross (d. 1912)
- 1878 – Louis Chevrolet, Swiss-American race car driver and businessman, co-founded Chevrolet (d. 1941)
- 1887 – Conrad Hilton, American entrepreneur (d. 1979)
- 1899 – Humphrey Bogart, American actor (d. 1957)
- 1913 – Tony Martin, American singer (d. 2012)
- 1918 – Anwar Sadat, Egyptian lieutenant and politician, 3rd President of Egypt, Nobel Prize laureate (d. 1981)
- 1924 – Rod Serling, American screenwriter and producer, created *The Twilight Zone* (d. 1975)
- 1946 – Jimmy Buffett, American singer-songwriter, guitarist, producer, and actor
- 1946 – Larry Csonka, American football player and sportscaster
- 1949 – Sissy Spacek, American actress
- 1950 – Karl Rove, American political strategist and activist
- 1958 – Hanford Dixon, American football player, coach, and sportscaster
- 1971 – Justin Trudeau, Canadian educator and politician, 23rd Prime Minister of Canada

Some deaths that occurred on December 25

- 1946 – W. C. Fields, American actor, comedian, juggler, and screenwriter (b. 1880)
- 1977 – Charlie Chaplin, English actor comedian and director (b. 1889)
- 1989 – Billy Martin, American baseball player and manager (b. 1928)
- 1995 – Dean Martin, American singer and actor (b. 1917)
- 2006 – James Brown, American singer-songwriter (b. 1933)

Other Observances that occur throughout the world on December 25

- *Children's Day* – Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Equatorial Guinea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Republic of Congo
- *Tulsi Pujan Diwas* – India
- *Constitution Day* – Taiwan
- *Good Governance Day* – India
- *Malkh-Festival* – Nakh peoples of Chechnya and Ingushetia
- *Quaid-e-Azam's Day* – Pakistan
- *Takanakuy* – Chumbivilcas Province, Peru

Information taken from 2019 Wikipedia

MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of this Association is to promote the moral, social and civic advancement of its membership, and to perpetuate the customs and cultural aspects of Italian Heritage.

Article II, Section 1 of the AIH Bylaws

AMERICANS of ITALIAN HERITAGE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1 July 2018 – 30 June 2020

- President Gus Paolucci
- Vice President Ron Wassum
- Secretary Glenn Pizzuti
- Treasurer Bill Petrello
- Trustee (elected) Rio DeGennaro Jr.
- Trustee (elected) Jim Federico Sr.
- Trustee (elected*) Bob Andreano
- Trustee (elected*) Tony Illiano Sr.
- Trustee (elected) Don Rapposelli
- Trustee (appointed) Mario Fioritto
- Trustee (appointed) John Perrotti
- Trustee (immediate past President) Dave Vegh

ATTACHMENTS

- AIH Christmas Party Flyer
- NFL Championship Game Flyer and Score Card

MERRY CHRISTMAS

buon Natale

And finally, as our secular year draws to a close on December 31st, our Christian year begins with the First Sunday of Advent on December 1st, today, and includes the birth of Jesus Christ on December 25th.

The Officers and Trustees of the Americans of Italian Heritage and the Americans of Italian Heritage Charities wish each and every member of the AIH and their families a blessed and happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.