



NOVEMBER MEETING

riunione novembre

Our November Membership Meeting was cancelled, as our other meetings have been this year, due to coronavirus concerns.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Prossimi eventi

DECEMBER dicembre

As is our custom, there will be no Executive Committee Meeting and no Membership Meeting in December.

12 December, Saturday

AIHC Fund Raiser, 100 Square Board on OSU v. Univ. of Mich. Football Game.

15 December, Tuesday

AIH Family Christmas Party at Pine Ridge Country Club @ 6:30p.

CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

JANUARY gennaio

20 January, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting, to be conducted via Zoom video conferencing @ 7:00p.

27 January, Wednesday

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

FEBRUARY febbraio

7 February, Sunday

AIHC Fund Raiser, 100 Square Board on the NFL Championship Game.

See Attachment 1 for more information including the rules and Attachment 2 for the scorecard.

17 February, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting, to be conducted via Zoom video conferencing @ 7:00p.

24 February, Wednesday

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

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Compleanni di dicembre

Bob Andreano 14
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've been advised that member Frank Stinziano and his wife Pat are both recovering from the Coronavirus.

Please keep them in your prayers.

SPECIAL DAYS IN DECEMBER

- Dec. 1: Eat a Red Apple Day
Dec. 9: Christmas Card Day
Dec. 12: Gingerbread House Day
Dec. 16: Pythagorean Theory Day
Dec. 16: Chocolate Covered Anything Day
Dec. 17: Wright Brothers Day
Dec. 18: Ugly Sweater Day
Dec. 23: Festivus Day
Dec. 24: Eggnog Day
Dec. 25: Christmas Day

The above information was obtained from timeanddate.com/holidays/fun

CHRISTMAS IN ITALY

One of the most important ways of celebrating Christmas in Italy is displaying the Nativity crib scene.

On Christmas Eve, it's common that no meat (and sometimes no dairy) is eaten.

When people return from Mass, if it's cold, they might have a slice of Italian Christmas Cake called 'Panettone'.

For many Italian-American families a big Christmas Eve meal of different fish dishes is now a very popular tradition.

by Italian immigrants in the 1800s. It now seems more popular in American than it is in Italy!

There are different theories as to why there are seven fish dishes eaten. Some think that seven represents the seven days of creation in the Bible.

The Christmas celebrations typically start eight days before Christmas with special 'Novenas' or a series of prayers and church services.

7 DEC 41 PEARL HARBOR

I know it's the holiday season, but we should never forget what happened to this country on the 7th of December in 1941.

The Attack on Pearl Harbor was a surprise military strike by the Imperial Japanese Naval Air Service on the United States (a neutral country at the time) against the naval base at Pearl Harbor in Honolulu, Territory of Hawaii, just before 08:00a, on Sunday morning, December 7, 1941.

The attack commenced at 7:48a Hawaiian Time. The base was attacked by Imperial Japanese aircraft (including fighters, level and dive bombers, and torpedo bombers) in two waves, launched from six aircraft carriers.



war. The Japanese also sank or damaged three cruisers, three destroyers, an anti-aircraft training ship, and one minelayer. A total of 188 U.S. aircraft were destroyed, 2,403 Americans were killed and 1,178 others were wounded. Important base installations such as the power station, dry dock, shipyard, maintenance, and fuel and torpedo storage facilities, as well as the submarine piers and headquarters building (also home of the intelligence section) were not attacked. Japanese losses were light: 29 aircraft and five midget submarines lost, and 64 servicemen killed. Kazuo Sakamaki, the commanding officer of one of the submarines, was captured.

Japan announced a declaration of war on the United States later that day (December 8 in Tokyo), but the declaration was not delivered until the following day. The following day, December 8, Congress declared war on Japan. On December 11, Germany and Italy each declared war on the U.S., which responded with a declaration of war against Germany and Italy.

There were numerous historical precedents for the unannounced military action by Japan, but the lack of any formal warning, particularly while peace negotiations were still apparently ongoing, led President Franklin D. Roosevelt to proclaim December 7, 1941, "a date which will live in infamy". Because the attack happened without a declaration of war and without explicit warning, the attack on Pearl Harbor was later judged in the Tokyo Trials to be a war crime.

Information taken from 2020 Wikipedia

23 DECEMBER FESTIVUS

There is one other major holiday celebrated in the month of December, 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 2020 Wikipedia

MAJOR 2020 EVENTS

Australian bushfires:

The country faced one of its most devastating wildfire seasons as the blazes continued from December 2019 into the new year and burned a record 47 million acres, displacing thousands of animals and people, killing at least 34 people.

Prince Harry and Meghan Markle quit royal family:

The Duke and Duchess of Sussex shocked both sides of the pond on Jan. 8 when they announced they were stepping down as "senior" royals.

COVID-19 pandemic:

The World Health Organization announced Jan. 9 that a deadly coronavirus had emerged from Wuhan, China. In a matter of months, the virus spread across the globe to more than 55.6 million people, resulting in at least 1.34 million deaths.

Kobe Bryant's death:

The legendary Los Angeles Lakers' player was killed along with his daughter, Gianna, and

seven others when their helicopter crashed in Calabasas, Calif., on Jan. 26.

Impeachment of President Donald Trump:

The president faced an impeachment trial in January on charges that he asked Ukraine to investigate former Vice President Joe Biden and his son Hunter. He was ultimately acquitted by the Senate on Feb. 5.

"Parasite" sweeps the Oscars:

Bong Joon Ho's film took home the most awards, landing Best Picture, Best Director, Best Original Screenplay and Best International Feature Film on Feb. 9. It marked the first time a non-English-language movie won Best Picture.

Harvey Weinstein verdict:

The disgraced Hollywood kingmaker was convicted Feb. 24 of raping an aspiring actress and sexually abusing a TV and film production assistant. The verdict was celebrated by his dozens of accusers and their supporters as a watershed moment for the #MeToo movement.

Stock market crash 2020:

The coronavirus pandemic triggered a global recession as numerous countries went into lockdown. The Dow Jones industrial average suffered its worst single-day point drop ever on March 9.

Black Lives Matter protests:

The police-involved killings of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery and Breonna Taylor this year sparked a wave of peaceful demonstrations as well as violent destruction and riots across the world to demand an end to police brutality and racial injustice.

More protests erupted in August when 29-year-old Jacob Blake was shot by a Kenosha, Wisconsin, cop and paralyzed from the waist down.

Kim Jong Un death rumors:

The North Korean supreme leader Kim Jong Un fueled speculation that he was either gravely ill or dead after he missed events commemorating his grandfather Kim Il-sung on April 15. He reemerged 20 days later in photos released by state media at a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The despot, however, faced a new wave of skepticism over his health in August when a South Korean official claimed all of the



appearances were faked and he was in a vegetative state.

Biden becomes Democratic Presidential nominee:

Former Vice President Joe Biden clinched the party's nomination in June despite a crowded primary field. Sen. Bernie Sanders, Sen. Elizabeth Warren, former New York City mayor Mike Bloomberg were also among the more than two dozen Democratic hopefuls in the race.

Twitter hack:

A group, allegedly spearheaded by a Florida teen Graham Clark, took over the Twitter accounts of prominent business and political figures, including Joe Biden, Bill Gates, Elon Musk and Kanye West, in a bitcoin scam.

Ghislaine Maxwell arrest:

Jeffrey Epstein's alleged madam Ghislaine Maxwell was nabbed July 2 on sex-trafficking charges while holed up in a luxury home on a 156-acre estate in New Hampshire.

"Murder hornets" arrive in US:

The invasive insect known as the Asian Giant Hornet was spotted for the first time stateside when they invaded Washington state. Measuring up to two inches, the hornets can wipe out entire bee colonies within hours.

Beirut explosion

A massive explosion at a Beirut port, sparked Aug. 4 by the accidental detonation of 2,750 tons of ammonium nitrate, killed at least 190 people and injured thousands of others.

Kamala Harris chosen as Democratic VP candidate:

Biden announced Aug. 11 that he selected the California senator as his running mate, making her the first black woman and the first Asian woman on a major party's presidential ticket.

Chadwick Boseman's death

"Black Panther" actor Chadwick Boseman died at age 43 after a four-year battle with colon cancer. His death on Aug. 28 shocked fans, since he had completed several blockbuster films while keeping his diagnosis private.

West Coast wildfires

Deadly wildfires erupted from California to Washington state burning millions of acres and displacing hundreds of thousands people since mid-August.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg's death

The Supreme Court Justice and unrelenting trailblazer for gender equality died Sept. 18 at the age of 87. She was the second-ever woman appointed to the high court.

Trump tests positive for COVID-19

President Trump announced Oct. 2 that he and first lady Melania Trump tested positive for coronavirus. He was hospitalized for three days at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center before he was discharged to continue his recovery at the White House.

Eddie Van Halen's death

Rock legend Eddie Van Halen, 65, died following a decades-long battle with cancer on Oct. 6. The iconic guitarist, known for hits such as "Jump" and "Hot for Teacher," had been first diagnosed with mouth cancer in 2000.

Joe Biden becomes President-Elect

Joe Biden became the President-Elect and possibly the 46th president of the United States on Nov. 7, apparently defeating President Trump with a critical assist from his birth state, Pennsylvania, which delivered the votes to propel him to victory and end one of the most contentious elections in recent memory.

Above information taken from <https://nypost.com/list/major-2020-events/>

MISSION STATEMENT

dichiarazione di missione

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 2020 – 30 June 2022

- President Gus Paolucci
- Vice President Ronald Wassum
- Secretary Glenn Pizzuti
- Treasurer William Petrello
- Trustee (e) Robert Andreanno
- Trustee (e) Rio DeGennaro Jr.
- Trustee (e) James Federico Sr.
- Trustee (e) Mario Fioritto
- Trustee (e) John Perrotti
- Trustee (a) Anthony Illano Sr.
- Trustee (a) Ken Mancuso
- Trustee (Immediate Past Pres.) David Vegh

ATTACHMENTS

1. NFL Championship Football Game Pool, Rules
2. NFL Championship Football Game Pool, Scorecard

FINAL THOUGHTS FOR THE YEAR

2020 has been a year like none that I can remember. It was certainly a challenge for all of us. We can all pray that those vaccines we hear about will usher in the beginning of the end of this pandemic nightmare.

The Executive Committee thanks you all for your patience throughout this year. Hopefully we can get back to something close to normal in 2021.

From the AIH Executive Committee, to all our members and their families, we want to wish you a...

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo