



APRIL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our speaker at our April Membership Meeting was one of our favorite cousins, Bob DiBiasio, Senior Vice President for Public Affairs for the Cleveland Guardians.



Bob DiBiasio

AIHC SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

The 2023 – 2024 AIHC Scholarships and Member Educational Grant Applications and Instructions are now posted on the AIH website (aihclub.com). The deadline for submitting your application is 15 May 23.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Prossimi eventi

MAY maggio

24 May 2023, Wednesday, AIH Executive Committee Meeting

- Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room
- Time 5:30p

31 May 2023, Wednesday, AIH Membership Meeting

- Venue: The Buona Festa Social Club
- Time: 6:00p
- Speaker: Matt Gambatese speaking about the Rocky Colavito statue in Little Italy.

JUNE giugno

21 June 2023, Wednesday, AIH Executive Committee Meeting

- Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room
- Time 5:30p

28 June 2023, Wednesday, AIH Membership Meeting

- Venue: The Buona Festa Social Club
- Time: 6:00p
- Speaker: TBD

JULY luglio

12 July 2023, Wednesday, AIHC Board of Trustees Meeting

- Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room
- Time 5:30p

19 July 2023, Wednesday, AIH Executive Committee Meeting

- Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room
- Time 5:30p

26 July 2023, Wednesday, AIH Membership Meeting

- Venue: The Buona Festa Social Club
- Time: 6:00p
- Speaker: TBD

29 July 2023, Saturday, AIH Summer Social

- Committee
 - Ron Wassum
- Venue: Hungarian Culture Club in Fairport Harbor
- Time: Doors open at 5:00p, dinner at 6:00p
- Cost: TBD
- Guests: Spouses and Guests are welcome.
- Dinner: Prepared by Regovich Catering
- Capacity: 100 – 125 people
- Bocce Courts will be available for club use.
- There will be sideboards and a 50/50 raffle.
- *Reservations required.*

AUGUST agosto

5 August 2023, Saturday, AIH Golf Outing

- Committee:
 - Andrew Zarlinga
- Venue: Black Brook Golf Club
- Time
 - Registration at 8:00a
 - Shotgun Start at 9:00a t
- Cost: \$100.00 per player
- Caterer's: La Vera
- Capacity: 100 – 120 golfers
- *Reservations required.*

23 August 2023, Wednesday, AIH Executive Committee Meeting

- Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room
- Time 5:30p

30 August 2023, Wednesday, AIH Membership Meeting

- Venue: The Buona Festa Social Club
- Time: 6:00p
- Speaker: TBD

SEPTEMBER settembre

20 September 2023, Wednesday, AIH Executive Committee Meeting

- Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room
- Time 5:30p

27 September 2023, Wednesday, AIH Membership Meeting and Club Bocce' Tournament

- Committee:
 - Ron Wassum
- Venue: Hungarian Culture Club in Fairport Harbor
- Time: 6:00p
- Cost: TBD
- Caterer: TBD
- Attendees: Members and spouses are welcome.
- *Reservations required.*

OCTOBER ottobre

4 October 2023, Wednesday, AIHC Board of Trustees Meeting

- Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room
- Time 5:30p

7 October 2023, Saturday, AIH Italian Night

- Venue: Regovich's Catering in Eastlake
- Committee:
 - Bill Petrello
 - Ron Wassum
 - Gus Paolucci
 - John Perrotti
 - Anita Licate
- Time: TBD
- Cost: TBD

- Guests: Spouses and Guests are welcome.

- Dinner: Prepared by Regovich Catering
- Capacity: 400 attendees
- *Reservations required.*

18 October 2023, Wednesday, AIH Executive Committee Meeting

- Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room
- Time 5:30p

25 October 2023, Wednesday, AIH Membership Meeting, AIH Clam Bake

- Committee:
 - Ron Wassum
 - Mario Bertone
- Venue: Fassonation Park in Madison
- Time: TBD
- Cost: TBD
- *Reservations required.*

NOVEMBER novembre

15 November 2023, Wednesday, AIH Executive Committee Meeting

- Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room
- Time 5:30p

25 November 2023, Saturday, OSU v Univ of Mich. Football Game, AIHC 50/50 Board

- As they usually do, AIH Charities has a 50/50 board for the OSU v Univ of Mich. Football Game.

29 November 2023, Wednesday, AIH Membership Meeting

- Venue: The Buona Festa Social Club
- Time: 6:00p
- Speaker: TBD

December 2023

- In accordance with our Bylaws, there is no scheduled Executive Committee Meeting or Membership Meeting in December.

9 December 2023, Saturday, AIH Club Christmas Party

- Committee:
 - Gus Paolucci
 - John Perrotti
 - Jim Federico Sr.
 - Mario Bertone
- Venue: Buona Festa Social Club
- Time: TBD
- Cost: Free
Reservations required.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Compleanni di maggio

Tony Vitantonio.....	03
Ron Terriaco.....	05
Dan Farina.....	06
Norman Ingrassia.....	06
Mike Camino.....	07
Marty Norsic.....	08
Ken Mancuso.....	12
Ralph Lombardo.....	13
Mitchell Zappitelli.....	18
Bill Petrello.....	21
Dr. Alfonso Rossi.....	24

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

HEALTH AND WELFARE

salute e benessere

Our AIH Secretary was in the hospital for a few days but is home recuperating now.

If you know of or hear of any Health or Welfare issues involving a member, please pass that information on to Richard O'Keefe at richardokeefe65@gmail.com or 440-537-8505.

SPECIAL DAYS IN MAY

Here are just a few of the not so well-known special days in May for your observance.

- 04 May: Star Wars Day (May the 4th be with you)
- 11 May: Twilight Zone Day
- 15 May: Chocolate Chip Day
- 19 May: Pizza Party Day
- 28 May: Hamburger Day
- 31 May: Macaroon Day

Information taken from timeanddate.com/holidays/fun

MAY IN ITALY

It's May, which means that the calendar is full of food and flower festivals, new museum exhibits, and outdoor concerts.

Weather in Italy in May?

Days are getting longer, the sunshine is getting warmer, rainy days are abating. In May, most Italians begin to move outdoors to parks, squares, gardens, bars, and restaurants.

Spring is a transitional season, so the weather is still prone to instability in May. The beginning of the month can be rainy and cold, but it can also be roasting. For instance, 2019, Rome experienced its coldest May in 62 years. Whereas, in 2015, Rome had an early May heat wave.

May in Italy: Holidays, Festivals, and Other Events

May 1 – Labor Day/May Day

"Italy is a democratic Republic founded on labor," is the first line of Article 1 of the Italian Constitution and is an important motto for the May 1 holiday. The 1st of May (Primo Maggio) is Labor Day in Italy and many other parts of the world. Also known as Festa del Lavoro or Festa dei Lavoratori, Labor Day is a national holiday in Italy and is traditionally commemorated with demonstrations by various labor unions. In Rome, the day is celebrated with a huge televised concert in Piazza San Giovanni in Laterano.



May 1 – Festival of the Snake Catchers

This fascinating and, frankly, fearsome festival, known in Italian as *Festa dei Serpari*, takes place in Cocullo, Abruzzo. It features a

wooden statue of San Domenico di Sora draped with dozens of wild snakes and paraded through town. The spectacle is derived from pagan worship of the goddess Angitia and was later merged with the worship of San Domenico when Christianity became the religion of the land. San Domenico is the patron saint protector against snake bites and toothaches.

Maggio Musicale Fiorentino in Florence

Classical music, dance, and theater are highlighted at this month-long arts and music festival in Florence.

May 8-11 – Calendimaggio in Assisi, Umbria

This yearly event with medieval origins is a celebration of the return of spring that includes good-spirited competitions between the upper and lower sections of the city of Assisi. The festival features food and parades, as well as a lot of activity centered around the Basilica of Saint Francis.

Second Sunday in May – Mother's Day

Italy celebrates the Festa della Mamma on the same date that the U.S. and much of the world does—on the second Sunday in May.

May 15 – Festa dei Ceri in Gubbio, Umbria

Gubbio's running of the "Ceri," or candles, is one of Umbria's biggest events of the year. The Festa dei Ceri's highlight is the medieval candle race, in which costumed participants race up Mount Ingino carrying enormous wooden candles. There is also a crossbow tournament, food fairs, and more.

Mid-May – Noto Infiorata in Noto, Sicily

Usually taking place around 18 May, Noto Infiorata is an event in which the UNESCO World Heritage city of Noto, Sicily, is carpeted with flowers in a variety of designs based on a theme. Noto is not the only city to hold an Infiorata, but it is one of the best known.

Last Sunday in May – Palio of Ferrara

Held in Piazza Ariostea in Ferrara on the last Sunday in May, the medieval equestrian competition pits the eight *contrade* (districts) of the city against one another—four neighborhoods inside the city walls and four villages outside the city walls. First codified in a decree in 1279, the Palio of Ferrara is considered the oldest Palio in the world. (In 2021, this event has been postponed until September 19.)

Late May – Palio of the Ancient Maritime Republics (Amalfi, Genoa, Pisa, Venice)

Yet another medieval-era event, the Palio delle Repubbliche Marinare pits the four ancient Italian maritime powers – Amalfi, Genoa, Pisa, and Venice – in a yearly boat race at one of the four sites. The event is also known as the Regata Storica delle Antiche Repubbliche Marinare d'Italia.

Late May – Cortili Aperti (Open Courtyards)

Art and architecture lovers will relish this opportunity to visit Cortili Aperti or Open Courtyards. The annual event hosted by ADSI gives visitors a glimpse into otherwise private estates.

Late May – Cantine Aperte (Open Cellars)

May is a great opportunity to sample some of Italy's finest wines. On the last weekend of the month, more than 900 wine makers throughout Italy open their doors to oenophiles with inexpensive (or free) flights of wine, plus information on winemaking techniques, proper storage, and food pairings.

Taken from italofile.com/may-italy

THE KENTUCKY DERBY 6 MAY

The Kentucky Derby is a horse race held annually in Louisville, Kentucky, almost always on the first Saturday in May, capping the two-week-long Kentucky Derby Festival. This year's Derby will be on Saturday, 6 May 2023. The competition is a Grade 1 stakes race for three-year-old Thoroughbreds at a distance of one and a quarter miles at Churchill Downs. Colts and geldings carry 126 pounds and fillies carry 121 pounds.



It is dubbed "The Run for the Roses", stemming from the blanket of roses draped over the winner. It is also known in the United States as "The Most Exciting Two Minutes in Sports" or "The Fastest Two Minutes in Sports" because of its approximate duration. It is the first leg of the American Triple Crown, followed by the Preakness Stakes, and then the Belmont Stakes. Of the three Triple Crown races, the Kentucky Derby has the distinction of having been run uninterrupted since its inaugural race in 1875. The race was rescheduled to September 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Preakness and Belmont Stakes races had taken hiatuses in 1891–1893 and 1911–1912, respectively. Even with the Olympics and major professional sports leagues canceled at those points, the Derby, Preakness, and Belmont took place during the Great Depression and both World Wars.

A horse must win all three races to win the Triple Crown. In the 2015 listing of the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA), the Kentucky Derby tied

with the Whitney Handicap as the top Grade 1 race in the United States outside the Breeders' Cup races.

The attendance at the Kentucky Derby ranks first in North America and usually surpasses the attendance numbers of all other stakes races including the Preakness Stakes, Belmont Stakes, and the Breeders' Cup.

History

In 1872, Col. Meriwether Lewis Clark Jr., grandson of William Clark of the Lewis and Clark expedition, traveled to England, visiting Epsom in Surrey where The Derby had been running annually since 1780. From there, Clark went on to Paris, France, where a group of racing enthusiasts had formed the French Jockey Club in 1863. They had organized the Grand Prix de Paris at Longchamp, which at the time was the greatest race in France. Returning home to Kentucky, Clark organized the Louisville Jockey Club to raise money for building quality racing facilities just outside the city. The track would soon become known as Churchill Downs, named for John and Henry Churchill, who provided the land for the racetrack. The naming went official in 1937.

The Kentucky Derby was first run at 1-1/2 miles (12 furlongs) the same distance as the Epsom Derby, before changing lengths in 1896 to its current 1-1/4 miles (10 furlongs). On May 17, 1875, in front of an estimated crowd of 10,000 people, a field of 15 three-year-old horses contested the first Derby. Under jockey Oliver Lewis, a colt named Aristides, who was trained by future Hall of Famer Ansel Williamson, won the inaugural Derby. Later that year, Lewis rode Aristides to a second-place finish in the Belmont Stakes.

The fastest time ever run in the Derby was in 1973 at 1:59.4 minutes, when Secretariat broke the record set by Northern Dancer in 1964. Also, during that race, Secretariat did something unique in Triple Crown races: for each successive quarter run, his times were faster. Although the races do not record times for non-winners, in 1973 Sham finished second, two and a half lengths behind Secretariat in the same race. Using the thoroughbred racing convention of one length equaling one-fifth of a second to calculate Sham's time, he also finished in under two minutes. Another sub-two-minute finish, only the third, was set in 2001 by Monarchos at 1:59.97, the first year the race used hundredths of seconds instead of fifths in timing.

In 2005, the purse distribution for the Derby changed, so that horses finishing fifth would henceforth receive a share of the purse; previously only the first four finishers did so.

The Kentucky Derby began offering \$3 million in purse money in 2019. Churchill Downs

officials have cited the success of historical race wagering terminals at their Derby City Gaming facility in Louisville as a factor behind the purse increase. The Derby first offered a \$1 million purse in 1996; it was doubled to \$2 million in 2005.

The Kentucky Derby is the oldest continuously held major sporting event in the United States (1875).

MOTHER'S DAY

14 may

Instead of once again going into the origins of Mother's Day, I thought this year that I would partially reprint an article I read last year, by Pat Perry, about "Momisms." You all know what a momism is—phrases that we all remember our mothers saying as we were growing up.

- Go to your room and think about what you did.
- Money doesn't grow on trees.
- What if everyone jumped off a bridge, would you jump off too?
- Don't put that in your mouth, you don't know where that's been.
- Be careful what you wish for, it might come true.
- I hope when you grow up, you have kids just like you.
- Because I'm your mother, that's why.
- If I've told you once, I've told you a thousand times.
- If you fall out of that tree and break your leg, don't come running to me.
- Because I said so.
- Don't think I don't know what you're doing.
- I'll give you something to cry about.
- I'm not going to ask you again.
- I can always tell when you're lying.
- Don't make me pull this car over.

ARMED FORCES DAY AND MEMORIAL DAY

Once again, I am going to go into my diatribe about military days of remembrance. There are three days each year that we recognize the service and sacrifices of members of our Armed Forces. These days are not interchangeable, and they are not days set aside to recognize just anyone who has passed away, or your long time pet who passed away. They are intended to recognize members of our Armed Forces only.



Armed Forces Day this year falls on Saturday, 20 May. Armed Forces Day honors all members of the military currently serving in any branch of our Armed Forces.

Memorial Day this year falls on Monday, 29 May. Memorial Day honors all members of the military who died while serving in any branch of our Armed Forces. The holiday, which is currently observed every year on the last Monday of May, was previously observed on May 30 from 1868 to 1970.

Veterans Day this year falls on Saturday, 11 November. This day was selected because the WW-I Armistice with Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918. Veterans Day honors all military veterans, whether they died while serving or made it home, in any branch of our Armed Forces.

COINS ON VETERANS' HEADSTONES

While visiting cemeteries, you may notice coins on headstones of military personnel left by previous visitors to the grave. A coin left on a headstone or at the grave site is meant as a message to the deceased Soldier's family that someone else has visited the grave to pay respect.



These coins have distinct meanings when left on the headstones of Veterans, especially those who gave their life while serving in America's military. These meanings vary depending on the denomination of coin. The tradition of leaving coins on the headstones of military personnel dates back to the Roman Empire.

Leaving a penny at the grave means simply that you visited. A nickel indicates that you and the deceased trained at boot camp together, while a dime means you served with him or her in some capacity. By leaving a quarter at the grave, you are telling the family that you were with the Soldier when he or she was killed.

Another tradition is leaving "challenge coins" by fellow Veterans who served in the same unit. Challenge coins bring sentiment and can have a deeper meaning.

According to tradition, the money left at graves in national and state Veterans Cemeteries is eventually collected, and the funds are put toward maintaining the cemetery or paying burial costs for indigent Veterans.

veteransaffinity.org/blog-post/coins-on-a-headstone

MEMORIAL DAY Flag Protocol

On Memorial Day, the flag should be flown at half-staff from sunrise until noon only. Then, it should be "raised briskly" to the top of the staff until sunset, according to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

APERITIVO

The *aperitivo* is a popular Italian tradition involving drinks and snacks in the early evening hours. Its roots can be traced back to ancient Rome and the habit of *gustatio*, socializing and nibbling before a banquet. The first modern Italian aperitivo was served in 1786, when a wine merchant from Torino created a slightly bitter drink to open the appetite and called it vermouth. Once King Vittorio Emanuele became a fan, the tradition quickly spread to Milan, and today it's practiced all over Italy. Traditionally a simple affair with snacks like peanuts and olives, the aperitivo has been evolving into apericena, which involves drinks paired with a light meal as a substitute for dinner. Typical drinks enjoyed at an aperitivo include beer, wine, or one of the famous Italian cocktails.

Taken from the Living Language Italian 2023 Calendar

PHRASE OF THE MONTH

Non c'e problema!
No problem!

Information taken from the Living Language Italian 2023 Calendar

A LITTLE TRIVIA

Why do Christians place their hands together in prayer?

The original gesture of Christian prayer was spreading the arms and hands heavenward. There is no mention anywhere in the Bible of joining hands in prayer, and that custom didn't

surface in the church until the ninth century. In Roman times, a man would place his hands together as an offer of submission that meant, "I surrender, here are my hands, ready to be bound or shackled." Christianity accepted the gesture as a symbol of offering total obedience, or submission, to God.

Why was grace originally a prayer said after a meal?

Today we say grace before a meal in thanksgiving for an abundance of food, but in ancient times, food spoiled quickly, often causing illness or even death. Nomadic tribes experimenting with unfamiliar plants were very often poisoned. Before a meal, these people made a plea to the gods to deliver them from poisoning, but it wasn't until after the meal, if everyone was still standing, that they offered a prayer of thanksgiving, or "grace."

The above information was obtained from The Little Book of Answers by Doug Lennox.

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 2022 – 30 June 2024

President..... Gus Paolucci
Vice President Ronald Wassum
Secretary Glenn Pizzuti
Treasurer Bill Petrello

Trustee (e)..... Rio DeGennaro Jr.
Trustee (e)..... Jim Federico Sr.
Trustee (e)..... John Perotti
Trustee (e)..... Tony Illano Sr.
Trustee (e)..... Ken Mancuso
Trustee (a)..... Carmen Frederico
Trustee (a)..... Mario Bertone
Trustee (a)..... Richard O'Keefe

ATTACHMENTS

1. None

COMMENTS TO THE EDITOR

If you have any questions or comments about, or suggestions for this newsletter, please put your thoughts in an email and send them to me at GPizzuti@GlennPizzutiArchitect.com