



NEWSLETTER

JUNE giugno 2023

MAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The speaker at our May Membership Meeting was our own Matt Gambatese. Matt spoke about the development of Little Italy as well as his involvement with the Rocky Colavito statue.

AIHC SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

Vince Pona, the Chair of the AIHC Scholarship and Members Educational Grant Committee, has advised that he will announce the recipients of the Scholarships and Grants at our June Membership Meeting.

FY24 DUES

Our fiscal year runs from 1 July through 30 June. This upcoming FY is FY24. I only mention this because our dues are paid per each fiscal year, so our FY24 dues should be paid on or before 1 July 2023. Look for your notice.

GOLF OUTING VOLUNTEERS

It takes a lot of people to put on a good Golf Outing. At this point our committee looks like this:

- Andrew Zarlinga (Chairman)
- Richard O'Keefe
- Mario Bertone
- Carmen Frederico
- Jim Federico
- Gus Paolucci
- Linda Paolucci
- Glenn Pizzuti
- Jan Pizzuti
- Kelly Pesco (Sponsor Coordinator)

But we can always use more people. If you're interested, please contact Andrew Zarlinga at 440-602-2674 or at andrewzarlinga@gmail.com

MEETING RSVP

Each month we send out an email asking those who plan on attending the upcoming meeting to advise us in a simple reply to the email. We don't do that for fun. The chef needs a fairly accurate head count in advance so he can order the food and arrange for the wait staff.

By the deadline that we posted for the May meeting, only 18 attendees had replied. Last

night, 34 members showed up for the meeting, expecting the chef to have a meal for them.

Please work with us. If you plan to attend, simply hit "reply" and let us know so we can tell the chef. Grazie

UPCOMING EVENTS

Prossimi eventi

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
- 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: Fassionation 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 dicembre

- 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.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Compleanni di giugno

Ron Wassum	01
Bob Randazzo	05
Jim Federico Sr.	08
Jim Wheeler	09
Bob Studniarz	13
Gary Licate	27

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

HEALTH AND WELFARE

salute e benessere

Last month we lost one of our former, but long-standing members. Angelo LaSpina passed away on May 15th at the age of 84. Please keep Angelo and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

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 JUNE

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

- 02 Jun: National Donut Day
- 08 Jun: Best Friends Day
- 09 Jun: Donald Duck Day
- 10 Jun: Iced Tea Day
- 11 Jun: Corn on the Cob Day
- 14 Jun: Bourbon Day
- 17 Jun: Eat Your Vegetables Day
- 18 Jun: International Picnic Day
- 22 Jun: Onion Ring Day
- 26 Jun: Chocolate Pudding Day

Information taken from timeanddate.com/holidays/fun

JUNE FESTIVALS & EVENTS IN ITALY

Summer is festival season in Italy, so if you visit the country between June and September, chances are you'll run across a festival or two. Many Italian towns have outdoor music concerts beginning in June, too. Here are some of the June highlights.

Festa della Repubblica



Italy's *Festa della Repubblica*, or Republic Day, on June 2 is a national holiday celebrated throughout the country. The biggest festival is in Rome, with a huge parade and a spectacular fly-over by the Italian Air Force.

Corpus Domini

The Feast of Corpus Christi or *Corpus Domini*, 60 days after Easter, is elaborately celebrated in many parts of Italy. Here are some particularly good places to go for Corpus Domini festivals.

- In Rome, an outdoor evening mass is celebrated at San Giovanni in Laterano, Rome's cathedral followed by a procession led by the Pope from there to Santa Maria Maggiore.
- Orvieto has a costumed procession with more than 400 people and streets are decorated with banners and flowers.
- Castelrotto in the Trentino-Alto Adige region has a big festival.
- Infiorata, spectacular flower petal art displays, are held in many Italian towns the Sunday after Corpus Domini.

Tuscan Sun Festival

The Tuscan Sun Festival, a top summer arts festival that gathers well-known artists and musicians for a week of music, art, cuisine, wine, and wellness (previously in Cortona) is now held in Florence in June. The program also includes cooking demonstrations, art exhibitions, and pre-concert receptions with locally made products and Tuscan wines.

Luminara of Saint Ranieri



Luminara of Saint Ranieri is celebrated June 16 in Pisa, the eve of the feast day of Saint Ranieri, Pisa's patron saint. The Arno River, buildings lining the river, and bridges are illuminated with the flames of over 70,000 lumini, small glass candle holders.

The Historic *Regatta of Saint Ranieri* is the next day, June 17th. Four boats, one from each of Pisa's districts, row against the Arno River's current. When a boat arrives at the finish line, one man climbs up a 25-foot rope to reach the victory flag.

Il Gioco del Ponte

Il Gioco del Ponte, Game of the Bridge, is held on the last Sunday in June in Pisa. In this contest between the north and south sides of the Arno River, the two teams try to push a huge cart into the opposing side's territory to claim possession of the bridge. Before the battle, there's a huge parade on each side of the river with participants in period costumes.

San Giovanni or Saint John Feast Day, June 24

The feast day of San Giovanni Battista is celebrated with events in many parts of Italy.

- **Sagra di San Giovanni** is the oldest historic event on Lake Como. Hundreds

of tiny lamps float in the lake and there's a big fireworks display in the evening. The following morning brings a boat parade with traditional boats decorated with flowers followed by folk dancing and flag throwing competitions. Events are held the weekend closest to Saint John's Day.

- **San Giovanni Feast Day** is celebrated in Florence the Sunday following June 24 with a medieval tournament followed by music, drinking, and feasting. In the evening on the Arno River, there is a palio of rowboats carrying lit candles followed by fireworks.
- **Palio di San Giovanni** is a four-day event in Fabriano, in central Italy's Marche region, culminating on June 24 with a beautiful infiorata, tapestries made of flower petals. Events include traditional medieval competitions with participants dressed in period costume, flag throwing performances, and crafts and food stands.

Festival dei Due Mondi

Festival of Two Worlds, is one of Italy's most famous performing arts festivals, attended by some of the world's top artists. It features concerts, operas, ballets, films, and art from late June through mid-July. The festival was first started in 1958 by composer Gian Carlo Menotti with the intention of bringing together the old and new worlds of Europe and America. It's in Spoleto in central Italy's Umbria region.

The above information was obtained from tripsavvy.com/June-italy

THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES

Flag Day this year is Wednesday, 14 June.

The national flag of the United States of America, often referred to as the *American flag* or the *U.S. flag*, consists of thirteen equal horizontal stripes of red (top and bottom) alternating with white, with a blue rectangle in the canton (referred to specifically as the "union") bearing fifty small, white, five-pointed stars arranged in nine offset horizontal rows, where rows of six stars (top and bottom) alternate with rows of five stars. The 50 stars on the flag represent the 50 U.S. states, and the 13 stripes represent the thirteen British colonies that declared independence from Great Britain, and became the first states in the U.S. Nicknames for the flag include the *Stars and Stripes*, *Old Glory*, and the *Star-Spangled Banner*.

The current design of the U.S. flag is its 27th; the design of the flag has been modified officially 26 times since 1777. The 48-star flag was in effect for 47 years until the 49-star version became official on July 4, 1959. The 50-star flag was ordered by then president

Eisenhower on August 21, 1959, and was adopted in July 1960. It is the longest-used version of the U.S. flag and has been in use for over 62 years.



The first flag resembling the modern stars and stripes was an unofficial flag sometimes called the "Grand Union Flag", or "the Continental Colors." It consisted of 13 red-and-white stripes, with the British Jack in the upper left-hand-corner. It first appeared on December 3, 1775, when Continental Navy Lieutenant John Paul Jones flew it aboard Captain Esek Hopkin's flagship, the *Alfred*, in the Delaware River. It remained the national flag until June 14, 1777. At the time of the Declaration of Independence in July 1776, the Continental Congress would not legally adopt flags with "stars, white in a blue field" for another year. The "Grand Union Flag" has historically been referred to as the first national flag of the United States.

Flag Resolution of 1777

On June 14, 1777, the Second Continental Congress passed the Flag Resolution which stated: "*Resolved*, That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation." Flag Day is now observed on June 14 of each year. While scholars still argue about this, tradition holds that the new flag was first hoisted in June 1777 by the Continental Army at the Middlebrook encampment.

The first official U.S. flag flown during battle was on August 3, 1777, at Fort Schuyler (Fort Stanwix) during the Siege of Fort Stanwix. Massachusetts reinforcements brought news of the adoption by Congress of the official flag to Fort Schuyler. Soldiers cut up their shirts to make the white stripes; scarlet material to form the red was secured from red flannel petticoats of officers' wives, while material for the blue union was secured from Capt. Abraham Swartwout's blue cloth coat. A voucher is extant that Congress paid Capt. Swartwout of Dutchess County for his coat for the flag.

The Flag Resolution did not specify any particular arrangement, number of points, nor orientation for the stars and the arrangement or whether the flag had to have seven red stripes

and six white ones or vice versa. The appearance was up to the maker of the flag. Some flag makers arranged the stars into one big star, in a circle or in rows and some replaced a state's star with its initial. One arrangement features 13 five-pointed stars arranged in a circle, with the stars arranged pointing outwards from the circle (as opposed to up), as in the Betsy Ross flag. Experts have dated the earliest known example of this flag to be 1792 in a painting by John Trumbull.

Despite the 1777 resolution, the early years of American independence featured many different flags. Most were individually crafted rather than mass-produced. While there are many examples of 13-star arrangements, some of those flags included blue stripes as well as red and white. Benjamin Franklin and John Adams, in an October 3, 1778 letter to Ferdinand I of the Two Sicilies, described the American flag as consisting of "13 stripes, alternately red, white, and blue, a small square in the upper angle, next to the flagstaff, in a blue field, with 13 white stars, denoting a new Constellation." John Paul Jones used a variety of 13-star flags on his U.S. Navy ships including the well-documented 1779 flags of the *Serapis* and the *Alliance*. The *Serapis* flag had three rows of eight-pointed stars with red, white, and blue stripes. However, the flag for the *Alliance* had five rows of eight-pointed stars with 13 red and white stripes, and the white stripes were on the outer edges. Both flags were documented by the Dutch government in October 1779, making them two of the earliest known flags of 13 stars.

NUTELLA

Nutella is a brand of sweetened hazelnut cocoa spread. Nutella is manufactured by the Italian company Ferrero and was first introduced in 1964, although its first iteration dates to 1963.

Pietro Ferrero owned a bakery in Alba, an Italian town known for the production of hazelnuts. In 1946, he sold the initial 300-kilogram (660 lb) batch of *Pasta Gianduja*, derived from Gianduja. Originally sold as a solid block, Ferrero started to sell a creamy version in 1951 as *Supercrema gianduja*.

In 1963, Ferrero's son Michele Ferrero revamped *Supercrema gianduja* with the intention of marketing it throughout Europe. Its composition was modified, and it was renamed "Nutella". The first jar of Nutella left the factory in Alba on April 20, 1964. The product was an instant success and remains widely popular.

In 2012, French senator Yves Daudigny proposed a tax increase on palm oil from €100 to €400 per tonne. At 20 percent, palm oil is one of Nutella's main ingredients, and the tax was dubbed "the Nutella tax" in the media.

On 14 May 2014, Poste italiane issued a 50th anniversary Nutella commemorative stamp. The 70 Euro cent stamp was designed by Istituto Poligrafico e Zecca dello Stato and features a jar of Nutella on a golden background. Ferrero held a Nutella Day on 17 and 18 May to celebrate the anniversary.

GELATO

You may be surprised to learn that modern *gelato* was not created in Italy but in Paris, France, in the late seventeenth century. It earned Sicilian chef Francesco Procopio dei Coltelli his French citizenship and a royal license from King Louis XIV granting him exclusive rights to produce the frozen dessert. His Café Procope, founded in 1686, eventually came to be one of the most famous literary hangouts of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, drawing the likes of Rousseau, Voltaire, Benjamin Franklin, Napoleon, Marie Antoinette, Victor Hugo, and Balzac. Believe it or not, the café, which claims to be the oldest in the world, is still around. And, of course, so is the gelato, the creamy ice cream that typically packs 70 percent more flavor than other frozen desserts.

Information taken from the Living Language Italian 2023 Calendar

A TRIP TO ROME

A man was getting a haircut prior to a trip to Rome. He mentioned the trip to his barber who responded, "Rome? Why would anyone want to go there? It's crowded & dirty and full of Italians. You're crazy to go to Rome.

So, how are you getting there?" "We're taking Delta," was the reply. "We got a great rate!" "Delta?" exclaimed the barber. "That's a terrible airline. Their planes are old, their flight attendants are ugly, and they're always late.

So, where are you staying in Rome?" "We'll be at the downtown International Marriott." "That dump! That's the worst hotel in the city. The rooms are small, the service is surly, and they're overpriced.

So, whatcha doing when you get there?" "We're going to go to see the Vatican and we hope to see the Pope." "That's rich," laughed the barber. "You and a million other people trying to see him. He'll look the size of an ant. Boy, good luck on this lousy trip of yours. You're going to need it."

A month later, the man again came in for his regular haircut. The barber asked him about his trip to Rome. "It was wonderful," explained the man, "not only were we on time in one of TWA's brand-new planes, but it was overbooked, and they bumped us up to first class. The food and wine were wonderful, and

I had a beautiful 28-year-old stewardess who waited on me hand and foot.

And the hotel-it was great! They'd just finished a \$25 million remodeling job and now it's the finest hotel in the city. They, too, were overbooked, so they apologized and gave us the presidential suite at no extra charge!"

"Well," muttered the barber, "I know you didn't get to see the pope." "Actually, we were quite lucky, for as we toured the Vatican, a Swiss Guard tapped me on the shoulder and explained that the pope likes to personally meet some of the visitors, and if I'd be so kind as to step into his private room and wait the pope would personally greet me. Sure enough, five minutes later the pope walked through the door and shook my hand! I knelt down as he spoke a few words to me." "Really?" asked the Barber. "What'd he say?" He said, "Where'd you get the terrible haircut?"

PHRASE OF THE MONTH

Vuoi un caffè?

Do you want coffee?

Information taken from the Living Language Italian 2023 Calendar

A LITTLE TRIVIA

Why, at the end of a profound statement or a prayer, do Christians, Muslims, and Jews all say "Amen"?

The word *amen* appears 13 times in the Hebrew Bible and 119 times in the New Testament as well as in the earliest Muslim writings. The word originated in Egypt around 2500 BC as *Amun*, and meant the "Hidden One," the name of their highest deity. Hebrew scholars adopted the word as meaning "so it is" and passed it on to the Christians and Muslims.

Why is June the most popular month for weddings?

The ancient Greeks and Romans both suggested marriage during a full moon because of its positive influence on fertility. The Romans favored June, a month they named after Juno, the goddess of marriage, because, if the bride conceived right away, she wouldn't be too pregnant to help with the harvest. She also would probably have recovered from giving birth in time to help in the fields with next year's harvest.

Why does a groom carry his bride over the threshold?

The custom of carrying a bride over the threshold comes from the kidnapping practices of the Germanic Goths around 200 AD. Generally, these men only married women from within their communities, but when the supply ran short, they would raid neighboring villages and seize young girls to carry home as their wives. From this practice of abduction sprang

the now symbolic act of carrying the bride over the threshold.

Why are wedding banns announced before a marriage?

The custom of proclaiming wedding banns began in 800 AD when Holy Roman emperor Charlemagne became alarmed by the high rate of inbreeding throughout his empire. He ordered that all marriages be publicly announced at least seven days prior to the ceremony and that anyone knowing that the bride and groom were related must come forward. The practice proved so successful that it was widely endorsed by all faiths.

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 PresidentRonald Wassum
 SecretaryGlenn Pizzuti
 TreasurerBill Petrello

Trustee (e).....Rio DeGennaro Jr.
 Trustee (e).....Jim Federico Sr.
 Trustee (e).....John Perrotti
 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