



**AUGUST MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

The speaker at our August Membership Meeting was Mr. Keith Webb, Director of Community Relations for Spire Academy, formerly the Spire Institute, in Geneva, Ohio. Keith spoke about the mission and vision of Spire Academy. They are a private high school Preparatory School. They currently have a little over 125 students enrolled but their goal is to reach a student body of 600 in the next three years.

**GOLF OUTING**

On Saturday, 5 August 2023, AIH held their annual Golf Outing at Black Brook Golf Course in Mentor. After our pandemic induced recess from having such an outing, it turned out to be low key event with only 14 foursomes. That being said, everyone seemed to enjoy the outing. There was nothing but positive remarks at the dinner.

A special thanks goes out the committee that made this event possible:

- Ron Wassum, Vice President
- Richard O'Keefe, Trustee
- Carmen Frederico, Trustee
- Gus Paolucci, President
- Linda Paolucci
- Glenn Pizzuti, Secretary
- Jan Pizzuti
- Bill Petrello, Treasurer
- Kelly Pescho (sponsor coordinator)
- Anita Licate (Jefferson Diner at the Turn)

We hope to see twice as many golfers at next year's outing, which is scheduled for Saturday, 3 August 2024, again at Black Brook. Save the Date

**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

Bill Petrello, long time Treasurer for both the AIH and the AIH Charities, has decided to hang up his ledger. Bill announced at the August Membership Meeting that, effective 30 Sep 23, he will step down as Treasurer for the AIH, and effective 31 Dec 23, he will step down as Treasurer for the AIH Charities. Vince Pona has agreed to step up and fill these two vital positions. Nobody I know can remember Bill's predecessor. The club will be forever in his debt for the years of service he provided.

As we say in the Navy, *we wish you fair winds and following seas.*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

prossimi eventi

**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:
  - o Ron Wassum
- Venue: Hungarian Culture Club in Fairport Harbor
- Time: 6:00p
- Caterer: Cater to You
- Attendees: Members and prospective members only.
- Cost: \$40.00 per person. *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, AIHC Italian Night**

- Venue: Regovich's Catering in Eastlake
- Committee:
  - o Bill Petrello
  - o Ron Wassum
  - o Gus Paolucci
  - o John Perrotti
  - o Anita Licate
- Time: 6:30p – 11:00p
- Cost: \$75.00 per person
- Guests: Members as well as Spouses and Guests are welcome.
- Dinner: Prepared by Regovich Catering
- Activities: 50/50 Boards, Food Wheels, a Chinese Auction, a Wine Tower, and a D.J.
- Capacity: 400 – 450 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:
  - o Ron Wassum
  - o Mario Bertone
- Venue: Fassionation Park in Madison
- Attendees: Members as well as Spouses and Guests are welcome.
- Time: TBD
- Cost: TBD
- Caterer: La Vera *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**

- Chair: Bill Petrello

**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:
  - o Gus Paolucci
  - o John Perrotti
  - o Jim Federico Sr.
  - o Mario Bertone
- Venue: Buona Festa Social Club
- Time: 2:00p – 4:00p
- Volunteers arrive at 12:00p for set up.
- Cost: Free
- There will be a Balloon Artist:
- Santa and Presents: Santa will pass out presents to children. All presents are to be purchased, wrapped, identified, and delivered to the venue no later than 12:00 noon, the day of the event.
- Registration is required. There is a limited capacity of 80, so it will be first come, first served. *Reservations required.*

**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Compleanni di Settembre

Matt Lallo .....	1
Vinny Cicconetti.....	6

Dominic Palermo..... 6  
 Don Ramacciato..... 10  
 Vince Nasca..... 10  
 Luigi DiCarlo..... 16  
 Shane Nardiello..... 20  
 Fran Rozzo..... 22  
 Matt Tartaglia..... 24  
 Rio DeGennaro..... 26

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

**HEALTH AND WELFARE**  
*salute e benessere*

- Angelina Farinacci, the wife of former member Domenic Farinacci, passed away on 26 August 2023.

Please keep her and her 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](mailto:richardokeefe65@gmail.com) or 440-537-8505.

**SPECIAL DAYS IN SEPTEMBER**

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

- 01 Sep: No Ryme or Reason Day
- 04 Sep: Eat an extra Dessert Day
- 07 Sep: Salami Day
- 12 Sep: Chocolate Milkshake Day
- 13 Sep: Positive Thinking Day
- 16 Sep: Guacamole Day
- 17 Sep: International Country Music Day
- 19 Sep: International Talk Like a Pirate Day
- 27 Sep: Crush a Can Day
- 28 Sep: Ask a Stupid Question Day
- 30 Sep: Hot Mulled Cider Day

*Information taken from [timeanddate.com/holidays/fun](http://timeanddate.com/holidays/fun).*

**1752 CALENDAR CHANGE**  
 2 September 1752

Today, Americans are used to a calendar with a "year" based the earth's rotation around the sun, with "months" having no relationship to the cycles of the moon and New Years Day falling on January 1. However, that system was not adopted in England and its colonies until 1752.

The changes implemented that year have created challenges for historians and genealogists working with early colonial records, since it is sometimes hard to determine whether information was entered according to the then-current English calendar or the "New Style" calendar we use today.

Throughout history there have been numerous attempts to convey time in relation to the sun and moon. Even now the Chinese and Islamic calendars are based on the motion of the moon

around the earth, rather than the motion of the earth in relation to the sun, and the Jewish calendar links years to the cycle of the sun and months to the cycle of the moon.

In 45 B.C., Julius Caesar ordered a calendar consisting of twelve months based on a solar year. This calendar employed a cycle of three years of 365 days, followed by a year of 366 days (leap year). When first implemented, the "Julian Calendar" also moved the beginning of the year from March 1 to January 1. However, following the fall of the Roman Empire in the fifth century, the new year was gradually realigned to coincide with Christian festivals, until, by the seventh century, Christmas Day marked the beginning of the new year in many countries.

By the ninth century, parts of southern Europe began observing first day of the new year on March 25 to coincide with Annunciation Day (the church holiday nine months prior to Christmas celebrating the Angel Gabriel's revelation to the Virgin Mary that she was to be the mother of the Messiah). The last day of the year was March 24. However, England did not adopt this change in the beginning of the new year until late in the twelfth century.

Because the year began in March, records referring to the "first month" pertain to March; to the second month pertain to April, etc., so that "the 19th of the 12th month" would be February 19. In fact, in Latin, September means seventh month, October means eighth month, November means ninth month, and December means tenth month. Use of numbers, rather than names, of months was especially prevalent in Quaker records.

During the Middle Ages, it began to become apparent that the Julian leap year formula had overcompensated for the actual length of a solar year, having added an extra day every 128 years. However, no adjustments were made to compensate. By 1582, seasonal equinoxes were falling 10 days "too early," and some church holidays, such as Easter, did not always fall in the proper seasons. In that year, Pope Gregory XIII authorized, and most Roman Catholic countries adopted, the "Gregorian" or "New Style" Calendar." As part of the change, ten days were dropped from the month of October, and the formula for determining leap years was revised so that only years divisible by 400 (e.g., 1600, 2000) at the end of a century would be leap years. January 1 was established as the first day of the new year. Protestant countries, including England and its colonies, not recognizing the authority of the Pope, continued to use the Julian Calendar.

Between 1582 and 1752, not only were two calendars in use in Europe (and in European colonies), but two different starts of the year

were in use in England. Although the "Legal" year began on March 25, the use of the Gregorian calendar by other European countries led to January 1 becoming commonly celebrated as "New Year's Day" and given as the first day of the year in almanacs.

To avoid misinterpretation, both the "Old Style" and "New Style" year was often used in English and colonial records for dates falling between the New Year (January 1) and old New Year (March 25), a system known as "double dating." Such dates were usually identified by a slash mark breaking the "Old Style" and "New Style" year, for example, March 19, 1631/2. Occasionally, writers would express the double date with a hyphen, for example, March 19, 1631-32. In general, double dating was more common in civil than church and ecclesiastical records.

In accordance with a 1750 act of Parliament, England and its colonies changed calendars in 1752. By that time, the discrepancy between a solar year and the Julian Calendar had grown by an additional day, so that the calendar used in England and its colonies was 11 days out-of-sync with the Gregorian Calendar in use in most other parts of Europe.

England's calendar change included three major components. 1) The Julian Calendar was replaced by the Gregorian Calendar, changing the formula for calculating leap years. 2) The beginning of the legal new year was moved from March 25 to January 1. 3) Finally, 11 days were dropped from the month of September 1752.

The changeover involved a series of steps:

- December 31, 1750 was followed by January 1, 1750 (under the "Old Style" calendar, December was the 10th month and January the 11th)
- March 24, 1750 was followed by March 25, 1751 (March 25 was the first day of the "Old Style" year)
- December 31, 1751 was followed by January 1, 1752 (the switch from March 25 to January 1 as the first day of the year)
- September 2, 1752 was followed by September 14, 1752 (drop of 11 days to conform to the Gregorian calendar)

*The above information was taken from [libguides.ctstatelibrary.org](http://libguides.ctstatelibrary.org)*

**TALK LIKE A PIRATE DAY**  
 19 September

International Talk Like a Pirate Day is a parodic holiday created in 1995 by John Baur and Mark Summers of Albany, Oregon, who proclaimed September 19 each year as the day when everyone in the world should talk like a pirate. It has since been adopted by the

Rastafarianism movement as an official holiday.



"Cap'n Slappy" and "Ol' Chumbucket", the founders of Talk Like a Pirate Day

The holiday resulted from a sports injury. During a racquetball game between Summers and Baur, one of them, in pain, said, "Aaarrrr!" and the idea was born. The game took place on June 6, 1995, but out of respect for the observance of the Normandy landings, they chose Summers' ex-wife's birthday, as it would be easy for him to remember.

At first an inside joke between two friends, the holiday gained exposure when Baur and Summers sent a letter about their invented holiday to the American syndicated humor columnist Dave Barry in 2002. Barry liked the idea and promoted the day, and later appeared in a cameo in their "Drunken Sailor" *Sing Along A-Go-Go* video. Michigan musician Tom Smith wrote the original "Talk Like a Pirate Day" song in 2003.

Talk Like a Pirate Day is celebrated with hidden easter egg features in many games and websites, with Facebook introducing a pirate-translated version of its website on Talk Like a Pirate Day 2008, and publisher O'Reilly discounting books on the R programming language. In September 2014, Reddit added a pirate theme to their website.

*The above information is taken from the 2023 Wikipedia.*

## MUSHROOMS

Late summer and early fall is prime mushroom season in Italy, one of Europe's largest producers. The most coveted mushroom is, without doubt, the winter white truffle found in the Piedmont Region, and particularly in the town of Alba. People are willing to pay upwards of \$2,000 per pound for the earthy, pungent taste of *tartufi*, easily making them the most expensive mushrooms in the world. Perhaps it's no surprise then, that the truffle trade is notoriously cutthroat. These tubers grow underground, making them very difficult to find. Traditionally, wild pigs were used to help locate them, but it turned out that wild pigs are good at finding tartufi because they too enjoy eating them. Today, special breeds of dogs are trained to hunt for tartufi.

*The above information was taken from the Living Language Italian 2023 Calendar*

## WINE

Italy is the world's number one producer of wine, and it's no wonder. Wine is an integral part of Italian culture. You will find wine at virtually every lunch and dinner table. People have been making wine there for more than four thousand years, and there are more than four hundred types of grapes cultivated across Italy's twenty regions. The Veneto Region is the largest producer of wine in Italy, while the U.S., Germany, and the UK are its biggest importers.

*The above information was taken from the Living Language Italian 2023 Calendar.*

## SEPTEMBER FESTIVALS & EVENTS IN ITALY

In Italy, September is a time of cooling temperatures, dissipating crowds, and historic festivals.

### Regatta Storica in Venice

Venice's historic boat race takes place the first Sunday in September with four race categories—children, women, and men in six-oar boats, plus the champions' race in two-oar boats. The races will be preceded by a parade of decorated 16th century-style boats with costumed oarsmen filling the canals. At this time, gondoliers in period costume carry the Doge, the Doge's wife, and other high-ranking Venetian officials along the Grand Canal.

### Venice International Film Festival on Lido Island

In early September, Venice is abuzz as the film industry arrives at Lido Island for the annual film premieres. This star-studded event is the oldest film festival in the world and one of the "Big Three" film festivals along with the Cannes Film Festival and Berlin International Film Festival. Premiering both the year's most anticipated films and up-and-coming ones by underdog directors from all over the world. The festival also takes the time to pay tribute to important figures in the history of cinema.

### MITO International Music Festival in Milan and Torino

In September, you can travel between the cities of Milan and Torino for MITO, formerly known as SettembreMusica, to attend a series of classical concerts. Performances range in size from grand assemblies in churches and concert halls to smaller ensembles in the cities' piazzas. You'll find nightly programming in both cities, which will feature works by Beethoven, Bach, Mozart, and other classic composers.

### Saint Vito Day Ciminna, Sicily

In the small Sicilian town of Ciminna, the first Sunday of September is always a celebration of the city's patron saint, Saint Vito. On this day, there's a huge parade recalling the life of Saint Vito with townspeople dressed in colorful period costumes. There will also be a livestock fair. The main church, which dates back to the Middle Ages, and has a lovely gothic rose window, is the epicenter of the religious processions.

### Festival of the Madonna of the Sick in Misterbianco, Sicily

La Festa Della Madonna Degli Ammalati, or the Festival of the Madonna of the Sick, is celebrated the first weekend of September in the Sicilian town of Misterbianco. The festival commemorates the miracle of the sanctuary being saved from destruction during Mt. Etna's eruption in 1669 when the rest of the town was covered with lava. Festivities run for five days starting Thursday evening and ending with a fireworks display.

### Rievocazione Storica in Cordovado

The town of Cordovado, an hour northeast of Venice, recreates the renaissance over the first weekend in September. During this historical reenactment, you can time travel back 500 years in this medieval town for a fun-filled weekend of performances, ancient games, jesters, and falconry presentations. Festivities include a procession followed by an archery competition and other tournaments where the districts of the town compete.

### Corsa Degli Asini in Fagagna

A historic donkey race in the Friuli-Venezia Giulia town of Fagagna, 87 miles northeast of Venice, has taken place the first Sunday in September since 1861. Teams from four regional hamlets compete with their racing donkeys and carts on an oval course set up in the town square. The race is preceded by a "grand entry" with donkeys and teams in their town colors, marching units, and event "royalty."

### Feast of Rificolona in Florence

The Paper Lantern Festival is believed to be one of the oldest festivals in Florence. The tradition relates to the celebration of the birth of the Virgin Mary. A festival in Florence was held to commemorate her birth, and farmers from surrounding towns and farms trekked to Florence with their produce and goods for the occasion. To arrive for the religious services on time, many started their journey before the break of dawn and needed lanterns to light their way.

The lantern tradition continues today and on the evening before the Feast, Florentines and others representing the farmer-pilgrims carry colorful paper lanterns at the end of a stick through the streets of Florence. A speech and

blissing are made in the piazza, followed by a party.

**Festival of the Madonna of the Sea in Patti, Sicily**

The Festival of the Madonna of the Sea is celebrated on the second Sunday of September in Sicily in the village of Patti, Messina province. During the event, the Golden Madonna statue is carried to the sea in a procession, then put on an illuminated boat to lead a boat procession. Dancing, music, food, and wine will follow.

**Juliet's Birthday in Verona**

In fair Verona, you can celebrate the birthday of one of Shakespeare's most famous characters, Juliet Capulet. Here, it's possible to visit the building thought to be the original home of the real Capulet family and the very popular Juliet balcony. Her birthday is celebrated on the first weekend of September. During the birthday celebration, partiers roam the streets of Verona dressed in romantic period costumes to celebrate the young love-struck heroine's birthday. Festivities include parades of the infamous Courts of the Montagues and Capulets, dances, and street entertainment.

**Illumination of the Holy Cross in Lucca**

The Illumination of the Holy Cross is a religious procession that takes place on September 13 in the Tuscan city of Lucca. In a celebration dating back to the 8th century, the city is illuminated with thousands of candles on this night as the procession goes through Lucca's historic center. The procession leaves from the Basilica of San Frediano and proceeds through the town to the Cathedral to pay homage to the Holy Wooden Cross. Participants hold candles or lamps, and the procession route is illuminated with tiny votives containing candles.

**Festival for the Feast Day of San Gennaro in Naples**

The Festival of the Patron Saint of Naples celebrates the miracle of the liquefying of San Gennaro's blood in Naples Cathedral on September 19, followed by eight days of processions and celebrations. On the morning of September 19, thousands fill the Naples Cathedral and Piazza del Duomo, hoping to see the saint's blood liquefy in what's known as the miracle of San Gennaro. Afterward, the festivities begin with vendors selling toys, candy, and food.

**Palio di Asti**

This bareback horse race dates back to the 13th century and is held in the Piemonte town of Asti, about an hour's drive southeast of Torino. The race is preceded by a parade with participants in period costume, and special events are also held on the days leading up to the actual event, usually the third Sunday of September. Since 1988, the race has been

held in the Piazza Vittorio Alfieri in the heart of the city, a very scenic venue.

**Feast of Saint Cipriano and Saint Cornelio in Dorgali, Sardinia**

The Patron Saints of the Sardinian town of Dorgali are celebrated for eight days in September, with traditional dancing in period-costume and parades. The festivities typically begin in mid-September, commemorating the arrival of Autumn. At night, live music and dancing tend to draw the crowds into the city's main piazzas.

**Burano Regatta**

Similar to Venice's historic regatta, this one takes place off the island of Burano, near Venice, on the third weekend of September. Venetian-style rowing in Burano is a centuries-old tradition, as was the best way to transport fish to nearby islands and Venice before motorboats. Some racers consider this regatta a "rematch" after the larger race on Venice's Grand Canal that happens a few weeks earlier.

**Commemoration of Padre Pio in San Giovanni Rotondo**

Italy's favorite monk is celebrated with a torchlight procession and religious ceremonies on September 23 in San Giovanni Rotondo in Puglia, the site of the monk's friary. The first priest in history to allegedly bear the wounds, also known as stigmata, of Christ, Padre Pio was dedicated to continuing Jesus' work of redemption and is beloved by Italians. Besides being devoted to God, he was known for taking care of the sick and was officially declared a saint in 2002.

**Saint Greca Festival in Decimomannu, Sardinia**

The Santa Greca Festival, which celebrates a Sardinian saint of is held the last Sunday in September in the Sardinian town of Decimomannu near Cagliari. This food-centric festival includes a five-day barbecue where they roast hundreds of suckling pigs and serve food like eel shish kababs and stuffed tripe. The celebration lasts five days with parades, music, poetry, and dialect competitions.

**Feast Day of San Michele**

On September 29, this popular saint's day is celebrated in many places all over Italy. The most important celebration of San Michele, or Saint Michael, is at the Sanctuary of the Archangel Michael on the Gargano Promontory of Puglia, where you can visit the crypt and museum. As Saint Michael was known as the leader of the heavenly armies combatting Satan, the celebration of all angels was incorporated into his feast day.

**Macchina di Santa Rosa in Viterbo**

This big festival in Viterbo, 50 miles north of Rome, is typically held on September 3. On this day, the *Macchina*, a tower covered in

lights and topped by a statue of Santa Maria Rosa is paraded through the streets. The tower weighs nearly five tons, is almost a hundred feet tall, and takes more than 100 porters to carry. It's quite a sight to see and if you arrive a day early, you can also watch another procession which carries a reliquary, said to contain the heart of their patron saint Santa Maria Rosa.

*The above information was taken from [tripsavvy.com/September-Italy](https://tripsavvy.com/September-Italy)*

**PHRASE OF THE MONTH**

**L'estate e' quasi finita. – Summer is almost over.**

*Information taken from the Living Language Italian 2023 Calendar*

**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 Perrotti  
 Trustee (e).....Tony Illano Sr.  
 Trustee (e).....Ken Mancuso  
 Trustee (e).....Carmen Frederico  
 Trustee (e).....Mario Bertone  
 Trustee (e).....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](mailto:GPizzuti@GlennPizzutiArchitect.com)