**NUTLEY UNICO**

***(nutleyunico.org)***

**November NEWSLETTER**

**Please note that we will not be having a December dinner meeting. In its place will be our Christmas Party on Dec. 13 at Nanina’s in the Park**

**Next Dinner Meeting**

**Thursday, Jan. 6, 2022, 7:00 pm**

**at**

**Mama Vittoria**

**November Meeting**

Veterans’ Day

The November meeting was dedicated to recognizing our members and guests who are veterans of US military service. The program was presented by Dr. Frank Cocchiola.

* Veteran members attending were Charlie Kucinski, Mario Cocchiola, Dominick Cucciniello and Bob Montanino. Those unable to attend were Peter Ardito, Anthony Biondi, Sr., Joe Zarra and John Kelly.
* Two guests who are veterans were also introduced. They are Nick Scalera and Joe Agresti, Past National President (2007).
* The genesis of Veterans Day was explained. It is a federal holiday, originally called Armistice Day, recognized each year on Nov. 11. It recognizes the end of hostilities of WW I that formally came to an end on the 11th hour or the 11th day of the 11th month, Nov. 11 1918. At the urging of major USA veterans’ organizations it was renamed Veterans’ Day in 1954.
* The symbol of Veterans’ Day is the poppy, prominent in the poem *In Flanders Fields,* written by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae during WW I on May 3, 1915 after presiding over the funeral of a friend and fellow soldier, Lt. Alexis Helmer. It is frequently recited in celebration of Veterans’ Day and Memorial Day.
* Thanks to Jim Mauro who played the National Anthem on his sax adding a level of patriotism and dignity to the event, and to John Monaco of Personal Touch Florist who donated the boutonnieres.

Culture & Heritage

Dan Marucci, our Culture & Heritage committee chair, was away in Italy. In his place Dr. Frank Cocchiola gave the report. The report focused on the true goals and objectives of our Chapter, which are sometimes missed, and not properly presented to our many new members. We are not a political organization, nor a venue to promote one’s business, or a “knife and fork” organization meeting to just share a meal. From the Chapter’s inception in the mid 1950’s we are and will continue to be focused on **promoting and celebrating our Italian culture, heritage and ethnicity.** We do so through community service, special events, donations to local, district and national initiatives and our commitment to education as evidenced by our sponsorship of Italian Chairs at colleges and universities and over $32,000 in scholarships to Nutley graduates annually.

During the evening a reference was made to a presentation given at the Chapter’s 50th anniversary regarding its inception and history. A copy of that presentation is sent to all members as an attachment to the email.

**Annual Raffle**

All members will soon be receiving a minimum of two $100 raffle tickets for our annual fundraiser. We will distribute 325 tickets which must all be sold, as they have been each and every year. If you are having a problem selling them please contact me or the raffle chairpersons, Mark DiMaggio, Tom Sposato and Sal Ferrara. The drawing will be at the Feb. 3 dinner meeting. *Buona fortuna a tutti!*

**Good & Welfare**

* Alissa (Tucci) and Anthony Scarpelli had a baby boy, Anthony Michael Thomas, on Sept. 7. Little Anthony was 8 lbs.
* Under the direction of Essex County Executive, Joseph DiVincenzo, a park in Cedar Grove was dedicated to Thomas Tucci, Sr., Tom and Mauro’s dad, on Oct. 20.
* Nicole (Cocchiola) and Anthony Alessio welcomed a baby girl into the family on Oct. 31. Vivian Marie Alessio was born at 5:06 am and was 7 lbs, 13 oz.

**Executive Comittee**

The Executive Committee will soon be reviewing revised Chapter By-Laws presented by a committee chaired by Andy Garruto, with input from committee members Marie Solimo and Dr. Frank Cocchiola. The by-laws were ready last year but held back due to the cancellation of many of our 2020-21 meetings. They will be sent to all members to review prior to a vote being taken an upcoming dinner meeting. The Executive Committee’s next meeting is Nov. 18.

**Upcoming Events**

**Monday, Dec. 13** – Nutley Unico Christmas Party at 6:30 pm Nanina’s.

* Ladies Grab Bag - $15-20.
* Donations to Toys for Tots
* Donations to Nutley Unico Food Drive
* Cost - $80 per person; $75 if paid before Nov. 15
* Rsvp dbellucci@msn.com or mail checks to Debbie Bellucci, 17 Faber Pl, Nutley

**Thursday, Jan. 6, 2022** – Next dinner meeting at Mama Vittoria’s

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How about some Italian slang words and phrases:

*A fagiolo –* Translated into, “to the bean”. A metaphor for precision or perfection, similar to the American phrase, “to the letter”.

*Come Dio comanda –* Translates into, “like God commands”, or “the way things are supposed to be”.

*Cotto a puntino –* “Cooked to the little dot”, meaning a meal cooked to perfection.

*Da cosa nasce cosa –* Translates to “from thing is born thing”, meaning “one thing leads to another”.

*Fare un tiro mancino –* Translates to “to do a lefty throw”, a metaphor for doing something tricky or harmful.

*Spettegolare –* Insensitive verb meaning “to gossip”.

*Come il cacio sui maccheroni –* “As cheese is on macaroni”. A metaphor for a perfect pairing or match.

Please forward any changes in email addresses, good & welfare items, questions for the Executive Committee or questions concerning the newsletter to me at fcoch@aol.com (Frank Cocchiola)