

Americans of Italian Heritage

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY febbraio 2022

JANUARY CLUB MEETING

Riunione gennaio

Our January Membership Meeting was at The Buona Festa Social Club. There were about 25 members in attendance.

Tim Ausperk, the Club Pro from Black Brook Golf Course & Practice Center in Mentor was our speaker. What better way to get us all thinking of spring is there than to start talking golf?

Tim talked about the history of Black Brook, the past and current ownership, and all the many improvements that have been made since the city of Mentor took it over. Then Tim gave us all a few pointers regarding club grip and swing.



A CONDOR

After having Golf Pro Tim Ausperk as our speaker in January, it seemed like an appropriate time to post this bit of golf trivia.

We all know that in golf, a **birdie** is 1 under par and an **eagle** is 2 under par. 3 under par can be called a double eagle or an **albatross**. They can be achieved with a hole-in-one on a par-4, or a 2 on a par-5.

But have you heard of a **condor**? That's 4 under par. It can only be achieved by getting a hole-in-one on a par-5 or a 2 on the rare par-6. The most recent recorded condor was achieved on 20 December 2020 by Kevin Pon at Lake Chabot Golf Course in Oakland, CA on the 667 yard par-6 18th hole.

A condor in golf is extremely rare. It is only known and verified to have happened six times in golf history.



So how about 5 under par. You would have to hit a hole-in-one on a par-6. They call that an **ostrich**. Very few courses even have a par-6 hole, and if they did, a par-6 is going to be at least 600 yards. I guess that's why no ostriches have ever been recorded.

The above information was taken from www.pga.com

AIHC COLLEGE FOOTBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POOL

The College Football National Championship Game was held at 8:00p, on 10 January, between The Alabama Crimson Tide (1) and The Georgia Bulldogs (3). Georgia won 33 to 18. On our pool we had 19 individual winners and all the winnings have all been paid out.

AIHC SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

The 2022/2023 AIH Charities Scholarship and Member Educational Grant Applications and Instructions are now posted on the website. The deadline for submitting your applications is 16 May 2022.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Prossimi eventi

FEBRUARY febbraio

13 February, Sunday

AIHC Super Bowl LVI Pool

Committee Chair: Dave Vegh

Format: 100 square pool

Squares are \$100.00 each and have been sold out.

Check our website for the final board and score sheet.

16 February, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting

Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room

Time: 6:00p

23 February, Wednesday

AIH Membership Meeting

Venue: The Buona Festa Social Club

Time: 6:00p

Speaker: TBD

MARCH marzo

23 March, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting

Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room

Time: 6:00p

29 March, Tuesday

AIH is 43 years old.

The Club was organized on 29 March 1979

30 March, Wednesday

AIH Membership Meeting

Venue: The Buona Festa Social Club

Time: 6:00p

Speaker: TBD

APRIL aprile

20 April, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting

Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room

Time: 6:00p

27 April, Wednesday

AIH Membership Meeting

Venue: The Buona Festa Social Club

Time: 6:00p

Speaker: Bob DiBasio, Senior Vice President Public Affairs from the Cleveland Baseball Team.

MAY maggio

18 May, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting

Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room

Time: 6:00p

25 May, Wednesday

AIH Membership Meeting

Venue: The Buona Festa Social Club

Time: 6:00p



NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY febbraio 2022

Special Event: Presentation of Slate of Nominees for Officers and Trustees for FY23 and FY24.

Speaker: TBD.

JUNE giugno

22 June, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting

Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room

Time: 6:00p

29 June, Wednesday

AIH Membership Meeting

Venue: The Buona Festa Social Club

Time: 6:00p

Special Event: Election of Officers and Trustees for FY23 and FY24.

Speaker: TBD.

JULY luglio

20 July, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting

Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room

Time: 6:00p

23 July, Saturday

AIHC Fund Raiser

Venue: Hungarian Culture Club in Fairport Harbor

Time: TBD

27 July, Wednesday

AIH Membership Meeting

Venue: The Buona Festa Social Club

Time: 6:00p

Speaker: TBD.

AUGUST agosto

19 August, Friday

AIH Golf Outing – TENTATIVE

Venue: Erie Shores Golf Course in Madison

Time: TBD

24 August, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting

Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room

Time: 6:00p

31 August, Wednesday

AIH Membership Meeting

and Club Bocce' Tournament – TENTATIVE

Venue: TBD

Time: 6:00p

Speaker: TBD.

SEPTEMBER settembre

21 September, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting

Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room

Time: 6:00p

28 September, Wednesday

AIH Membership Meeting

and Club Clam Bake – TENTATIVE

Venue: TBD

Time: 6:00p

Speaker: TBD.

OCTOBER ottobre

19 October, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting

Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room

Time: 6:00p

26 October, Wednesday

AIH Membership Meeting

Venue: The Buona Festa Social Club

Time: 6:00p

Speaker: TBD.

NOVEMBER novembre

16 November, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting

Venue: Mama Roberto's Front Dining Room

Time: 6:00p

30 November, 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.

00 December, Sunday

AIH Family Christmas Party – TENTATIVE

Venue: TBD

Time: TBD

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Compleanni di febbraio

Carmen Frederico	1
Louis Aliberti	4
John Perrotti	15
Jim Federico Jr.	16
Carmen Cesa	24

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

HEALTH AND WELFARE

salute e benessere

Committee Chair Richard O'Keefe has advised us that his wife, Lynn, was hospitalized for 13

days with COVID and pneumonia, but is now receiving treatment at home, and is on oxygen. Please keep Lynn and Richard in your prayers.

SPECIAL DAYS IN FEBRUARY

- 02 Feb: Groundhog Day
- 02 Feb: Play Your Ukulele Day
- 03 Feb: Carrot Cake Day
- 04 Feb: Work Naked Day
- 05 Feb: Eat Ice Cream for Breakfast Day
- 07 Feb: Send a Card to a Friend Day
- 09 Feb: Bagel and Lox Day
- 10 Feb: Umbrella Day
- 13 Feb: Super Bowl
- 14 Feb: Valentine's Day
- 14 Feb: Clean Out Your Computer Day
- 14 Feb: Ferris Wheel
- 26 Feb: Pistachio Day
- 27 Feb: No Brainer Day
- 28 Feb: Public Sleeping Day

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

AIHC DONATIONS

The AIH Charities Board was reviewing their books at their January meeting where I couldn't help but notice the donations that were listed. Bear in mind, 2020 and 2021 were our pandemic years when we had no major fund raisers at all. Heck, in 2020 we hardly even had meetings. All this being said, AIHC still managed to donate \$31,675 in 2020 and \$19,950 in 2021 to various charities, scholarships, and grants. For these two years, these donations went to:

- Student Scholarships
- Member Grants
- Italian American Brotherhood Club
- Forbes House
- Italian Cultural Gardens
- VFW Post 9251
- Hospice of the Western Reserve
- Painesville Police Department
- Helping Hand Ministry
- Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine
- Italian American Cultural Foundation (IACF)
- WJCU Italian Music Radio Station
- Cleveland Italian American Museum
- Fallen First Responders



I think we can all be proud of the community services that our AIH Charities perform each year.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

The biennial election of AIH Officers and Trustees will occur this year in June. This will be for a term from 1 July 2022 thru 30 June 2024.



The Slate of Nominees running for the Officers and Trustees positions will be presented at the May 2022 Membership Meeting. The election will be held at the June 2022 Membership Meeting.

The Chairman of the Nominations Committee is Bob Studniarz. If you would like to be a part of this committee or would like to be a Nominee for one of the positions, please contact Bob Studniarz at 440-567-4344 or RStudniarz54@outlook.com

FEBRUARY IN ITALY

The weather in Italy in February

February is frigid in most parts of Italy but is not without its festivities. There's Valentine's Day and Carnevale, and many Italian schools observe a winter break called Settimana Bianca or "White Week" a time for skiing and sledding.

February in Italy is just as cold as it is in January, but the temperatures start to climb at the end of the month. February is the preferred month for Italian ski and snowboard enthusiasts, who usually take time off in mid-month to hit the slopes.

February is one of the most popular months to visit Venice because of its Carnival. While the famous festival sometimes takes place in March, it often falls during February when the temperatures are still quite cold. Venice and other northern Italian cities average high temperatures in the high 40s °F and lows

around or just above freezing in February. Luckily, the risk of rain and other precipitation is lower in February, averaging just 4-5 days.

Central Italy is still cold in February, but the first signs of spring can start to appear near the end of the month, especially in Rome. Average temperatures for Florence in February range from a low of 37°F to a high of 55°F.

February days in southern Italy are even milder, especially as the calendar nears March. Naples and Palermo get on average 7-9 days of rain during February, with temperatures ranging from the low to upper 40s °F for lows and the mid- to upper-50s °F for highs.

Carnevale / Carnival

Depending on the calendar, Carnevale season begins as early as February 3. Carnival celebrations run for approximately two weeks, with big events, parades, balls, performances, and food fairs. The best known Carnival celebrations in Italy take place in Venice and Viareggio, a seaside town in Tuscany.

Near Rome, the town of Ronciglione is known for its carnival and riderless horse race, which have origins that date back to the 16th century.

February 5 – Feast Day of Saint Agatha, Catania (Sicily)

Saint Agatha (Sant'Agata) is the patron saint of Molise, Gallipoli (Puglia), the Republic of San Marino, and in Catania (Sicily) where she was born. Her feast day is celebrated on 5 February, the day when the young saint is believed to have been martyred in 251.

Catania commemorates Sant'Agata — the *Santuzza* — every year from 3-5 February with candelora processions, and fireworks. It is the largest religious festival devoted to Saint Agatha in Italy and the most important festival of the year in the Sicilian city.

February 14 – Valentine's Day

Some people like to spend lovers' day in the home of St. Valentine, in the town of Terni in Umbria. Another ideal spot is in Verona, which holds the Verona in Love festival each year in honor of young lovers Romeo and Juliet. Stagings of Shakespeare's play, as well as art exhibitions and sweet markets, complete the week-long love fest.

The above information was obtained from italofile.com/january-italy/

CARNIVAL & MARDI GRAS

Mardi Gras, or Fat Tuesday, refers to events of the Carnival celebration, beginning on or after the Christian feasts of the Epiphany and culminating on the day before Ash Wednesday, which is known as Shrove Tuesday. *Mardi Gras* is French for "Fat Tuesday", reflecting the practice of the last night of eating rich, fatty foods before the ritual Lenten sacrifices and fasting of the Lenten season.



Related popular practices are associated with Shrovetide celebrations before the fasting and religious obligations associated with the penitential season of Lent. In countries such as the United Kingdom, Mardi Gras is more usually known as Shrove Tuesday, which is derived from the word *shrive*, meaning "to administer the sacrament of confession to; to absolve".

Some think Mardi Gras may be linked with the ancient Roman pagan celebrations of spring and fertility such as Saturnalia, which dates back to 133–31 BC. This celebration honored the god of agriculture, Saturn. It was observed in mid-December, before the sowing of winter crops. It was a week-long festival when work and business came to a halt. Schools and courts of law closed, and the normal social patterns were suspended. On the Julian calendar, which the Romans adopted in 45 BC, the winter solstice fell on December 25. Hence, the celebration gradually became associated with Christmas.

Unites States traditions

The festival season varies from city to city, as some traditions, such as the one in New Orleans, Louisiana, consider Mardi Gras to stretch the entire period from Twelfth Night (the last night of Christmas which begins Epiphany) to Ash Wednesday. Others treat the final three-day period before Ash Wednesday as the Mardi Gras. In Mobile, Alabama, Mardi Gras-associated social events begin in November,



followed by mystic society balls on Thanksgiving, then New Year's Eve, followed by parades and balls in January and February, celebrating up to midnight before Ash Wednesday. In earlier times, parades were held on New Year's Day. Carnival is an important celebration in Anglican and Catholic European nations.

Italian traditions

In Italy Mardi Gras is called Martedì Grasso (Fat Tuesday). It's the main day of Carnival along with the Thursday before, called Giovedì Grasso (Fat Thursday), which ratifies the start of the celebrations. The most famous Carnivals in northern Italy are in Venice, Viareggio and Ivrea, while in the southern part of Italy the Sardinian Sartiglia and the intriguing apotropaic masks, especially the mamuthones, issোধadores, s'urtzu (and so on), are more popular, belonging to a very ancient tradition. Ivrea has the characteristic "Battle of Oranges" that finds its roots in medieval times. The Italian version of the festival is spelled Carnevale.

Exposure by women

Women exposing their breasts during Mardi Gras in New Orleans, US, has been documented since 1889, when the Times-Democrat decried the "degree of immodesty exhibited by nearly all female masqueraders seen on the streets." The practice was mostly limited to tourists in the upper Bourbon Street area. In the crowded streets of the French Quarter, generally avoided by locals on Mardi Gras Day, flashers on balconies cause crowds to form on the streets.

In the last decades of the 20th century, the rise in producing commercial videotapes catering to voyeurs helped encourage a tradition of women baring their breasts in exchange for beads and trinkets. Social scientists studying "ritual disrobement" found at Mardi Gras 1991, 1,200 instances of body-baring in exchange for beads or other favors.

The above information was obtained from Wikipedia, 2022

A LITTLE TRIVIA

How many movies are made annually in Hollywood?

There hasn't been a movie made in Hollywood since 1911. When, fed up with ramshackle sets and the chaotic influence of hordes of actors

and crews, the town tossed out the Nestor Film Company and wrote an ordinance forbidding the building of any future studios. Even so, the magic of the name was already established, and so the industry we call Hollywood grew up around that little town in such places as Burbank, Santa Monica, and Culver City – but not in Hollywood.

Who was Mona Lisa in da Vinci's famous masterpiece?

Although it's known as the Mona Lisa, Leonardo da Vinci's famous painting was originally titled La Gioconda. Painted on wood, it's a portrait of Lisa Gherardini, the wife of a Florentine merchant. X-rays reveal that Leonardo sketched three different poses before settling on the final design. The painting of Lisa has no eyebrows because it was the fashion of the time for women to shave them off.



Why do we call the Academy Awards "Oscars"?

Since 1928, the Academy Awards have been issued by the American Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for excellence in filmmaking. The statuettes were nicknamed "Oscar" in 1931 by Margaret Herrick, a secretary at the Academy who, upon seeing one for the first time, exclaimed, "Why it looks just like my uncle Oscar." Her uncle was Oscar Pierce, a wheat farmer.

What is the most popular rock-and-roll song in history?

Because the lyrics in the Kingsmen's 1963 recording of the song "Louie, Louie" were unintelligible, people thought they were dirty, and although they weren't, a U.S. congressional investigation assured the song's enduring success. Since being sold by its author, Richard Berry, for \$750 in 1957, "Louie, Louie" has been recorded by nearly one

thousand different performers and sold an estimated quarter-billion copies.

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 2020 – 30 June 2022

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Trustee (Immediate Past Pres.) David Vegh

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