



ISSUE 594

AUGUST 2023



**ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER  
PRESENTS**

# ferragosto

**Saturday, August 12, 2023**

**2PM | Bonfire at Dusk**

**Lunch, Dinner, Dessert  
Coffee & Tea are Included.  
*Other beverages are available  
for purchase.***

**Ferragosto is a free  
member event.  
*Guests of members are  
welcome for \$20.00.***

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [WWW.ITALIANAMERICAN.COM](http://WWW.ITALIANAMERICAN.COM)



# ENJOY THIS SUMMER

## NEWS & EVENTS

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| <b>10</b> | I.A.C.C. IN THE COMMUNITY   | <b>18</b> | 4TH OF JULY   |
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|           |   | <b>21</b> | MANGIA BENE E VIVI BENE!  |

# SOCIAL CALENDAR

## August

- 8/1 ~ Women's Bocce League - 6:30 pm**
- 8/4 ~ Friday Nights At The Pavilion**  
(Chicken Cacciatore with Pasta: \$15.00) 5:00pm-8:00pm
- 8/7 ~ Men's Bocce League - 6:30 pm**
- 8/8 ~ Women's Bocce League - 6:30 pm**
- 8/11 ~ Friday Nights At The Pavilion**  
(Greens & Beans: \$12.00) 5:00pm-8:00pm
- 8/12 ~ Ferragosto 2023 - 2:00 pm**
- 8/14 ~ Men's Bocce League - 6:30 pm**
- 8/15 ~ Women's Bocce League - 6:30 pm**
- 8/16 ~ I.A.C.C. Board Meeting - 6:30 pm**
- 8/18 ~ Friday Nights At The Pavilion**  
(Lasagna Meat & Meatless: \$12.00) 5:00pm-8:00pm
- 8/25 ~ Friday Nights At The Pavilion**  
(Stuffed Peppers With and Without Meat: \$12.00) 5:00pm-8:00pm

## Upcoming Events

- 9/1 ~ Morning Lap Swim - Last Day**
- 9/4 ~ Labor Day Pool BBQ 1:00 pm-3:00 pm**
- 9/17 ~ Final Day of the Pool Season BBQ 1:00 pm-3:00 pm**



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



This month we hold the annual event we look forward to all year long. On August 12th, we will host **Ferragosto**, a family event celebrating the most important day of summer in Italy. We use this celebration to honor our members with a full day of food, music and, as is customary for Ferragosto in Italy, a glorious bonfire at dusk. Please plan on attending. The event is free for members. Friends and neighbors are welcome for only \$20. Trust me, you won't want to miss it.

Our Friday Nights in the Pavilion are still going strong with record attendance week after week. Don't forget to stop by for one of our Neapolitan pizza's or one of Dino Barbato's weekly food specials. We start serving at 5pm every Friday until September 15th.

As you know, there are many exciting projects happening here at the club. The Sheas' renovation to the first floor of the main building is coming along great. They are on schedule and are hoping to finish in early September.

We are also almost finished with our new pool fence. It is going to be a beautiful addition to the pool. The fence includes stone pillars, new fencing and lights. This addition was the brainchild of Jim Sano, our pool director and President of our Foundation. His hope is that the fence is going to draw so much attention to the pool that people come up to him and say, "when did we get a pool?" I know I can't wait to see the finished product.

There are a lot of exciting things happening in our 50th year at the IACC. I hope you attend our Ferragosto celebration and help us celebrate our anniversary with blaze of fire.

Ciao,

FRANK ZEOLI  
ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER  
PRESIDENT

# Ferragosto 2023



## I.A.C.C. OFFICERS

PRESIDENT ~ FRANK ZEOLI  
(518) 463-2106  
VICE PRESIDENT ~ SHARON PATREI  
(518) 765-3283  
TREASURER ~ PETE SCAVULLO  
(518) 869-8234  
SECRETARY ~ DONNA ZUMBO  
(518) 452-2617

## I.A.C.C. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LINDA HOFFMAN ~ (518) 785-1741  
DINO BARBATO ~ (518) 438-8902  
TERRY ANDRIANO ~ (518) 364-4873  
JIM SANO, IACC FOUNDATION ~ (518) 438-4631  
DAVID QUADRINI- IACC FOUNDATION~ (518) 438-7602

## I.A.C.C. COMMITTEE CHAIRS

POOL~ JIM SANO  
FINANCE~ PETE SCAVULLO  
MEMBERSHIP~ SHARON PATREI  
BY-LAWS/POLICIES & PROCEDURE ~ JIM SANO  
HOUSE~ DAVID QUADRINI  
GRIEVANCE ~ JEANNE SACCA  
SOCIAL ACTIVITIES~ FRANK ZEOLI  
COLUMBUS DAY GALA~ FRANK ZEOLI,

## SIAMO QUI

EDITOR ~ JOAN WALLIS  
CREATIVE DIRECTOR ~ CATALINA ARANGO  
ADVERTISING ~ JIM SANO

## I.A.C.C. OFFICE

HOURS: M-F 9:30AM TO 2:30PM  
THERESA LAJOY- OFFICE MANAGER  
PHONE # (518) 456-4222  
EMAIL: IACCOFFICE@ITALIANAMERICAN.COM

The Italian American Community Center Foundation

*presents*

# Friday Nights

AT THE

## PAVILION



**EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT FROM  
May 26th - September 15th**

**5:00PM - 8:00PM**

**Eat, drink, listen to music,  
play bocce or just hang-out at this  
"open-to-the-public" event!**

**257 WASHINGTON AVE. EXT.  
THE I.A.C.C. PAVILION**

**DON'T  
MISS IT!**

To learn more about the Italian American  
Community Center Foundation, please visit:

**[www.iaccfoundationalbany.org](http://www.iaccfoundationalbany.org)**

**518.456.IACC (4222)**

**257 Washington Avenue Ext. Albany, NY 12205**

Follow us on



Tag us #FridayNightsAtThePavilion #TheIACC



# The Ancient and Primeval Beech Forests in Italy

By JIM SANO

Italy has beautiful landscapes, historic cities, and a rich cultural heritage. However, it also boasts some of the world's oldest beech forests, which are part of a transnational World Heritage Site. The UNESCO European beech forests cover 18 countries, including Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, North Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine, and Italy. In 2017, UNESCO added the Italian beech forests located in the central Apennine Mountains to its World Heritage List. The list includes the following 13 Italian forests: Valle Cervara, Selva Moricento, Coppo del Morto, Coppo del Principe, and Val Fondillo (in the Abruzzo, Lazio, and Molise National Park), Cozzo Ferriero and Pollinello (in the Pollino National Park), Falascone and Pavari-Sfilzi in the Umbra Forest (in the Gargano National Park), Monte Cimino (Viterbo), Monte Raschio (Oriolo Romano, Viterbo), Sasso Fratino (in the Casentinesi Forests National Park) and Valle Infernale (in the Aspromonte National Park). These forests are some of Europe's last remaining stands of ancient, undisturbed beech trees. They are home to a rich diversity of plant and



**Valle Cervara**

animal species and are part of the "Primeval forests of the Carpathian beech and other parts of Europe" environmental site. Of the 54 UNESCO sites in Italy, only five have been recognized for their natural aspects: the Aeolian Islands, Mount San Giorgio, Etna, the Dolomites, and the Ancient Beech.



**Pollino National Park**



**Selva Moricento**



**Falascione and Pavari-Sfilzi**

The site covers 192,672 acres and is jointly managed by all participating nations to protect these historic forests for posterity. Approximately 29,278.9 hectares of ancient beech forests are officially preserved, while another 100,000 hectares are designated as a buffer zone. An additional 100,000 hectares of forest could be integrated into existing conservation areas. These forests are essential for ecological well-being, scientific research, and education. They provide an opportunity to study species-environment interactions and the long-term effects of climate change. Some of the forests are over 11,000 years old and contain trees that are over 500 years old. They are considered a critical part of Europe's natural heritage, and their preservation is vital for maintaining the region's biodiversity. These ancient forests harbor some of the few remaining undisturbed beech trees in Europe, providing a home for a diverse range of plant and animal species. The participating countries jointly manage the site and collaborate to protect these forests for future generations.

These valuable ancient beech forests, located from Emilia Romagna to Basilicata along the Apennines, offer a genuine journey through history. They originated at the end of the last Ice Age and have since spread across the globe, providing an immersive experience in pristine nature. The ancient beech forests have changed very little over the centuries because they are preserved in areas that are difficult to reach and because beech trees easily adapt to diverse climatic and geographical conditions.

The beech forests provide habitat for various endangered species, including the European brown bear, wolf, and lynx. In addition, the forests host a variety of organisms, including mushrooms, moss, lichen, insects, and rare birds like capercaillie, black grouse, and Ural owl. The beech forests in Italy have significant recreational, ecological, and cultural value. They have contributed to the region's economic and cultural development by providing timber for construction, fuel, foraging rights, and a source of food and medicine for local communities.



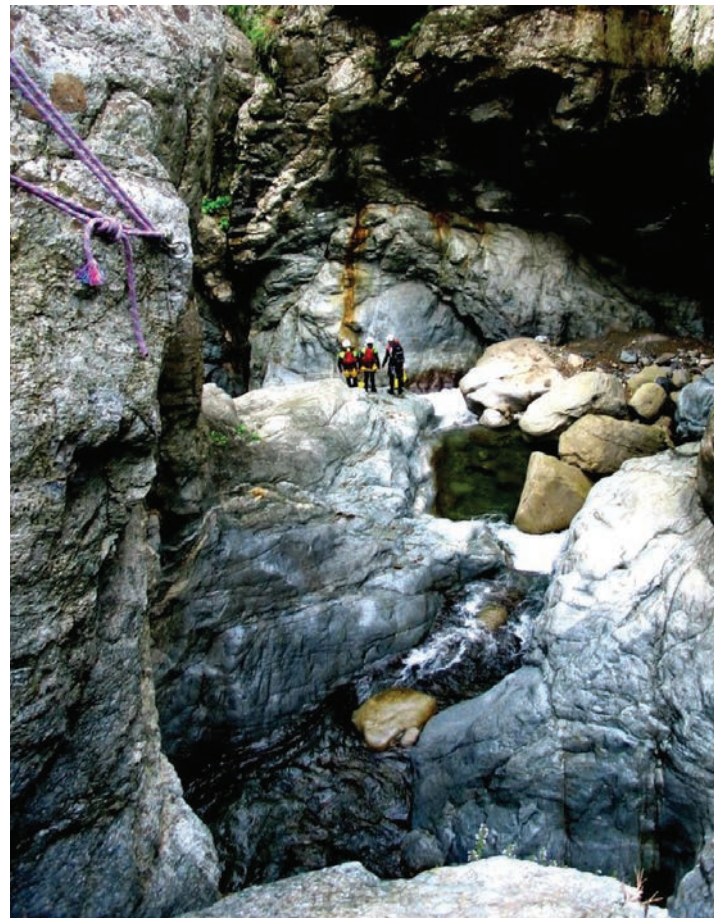
**Monte Raschio**



**Monte Cimino**

Efforts to preserve and protect these forests include monitoring biodiversity, regulating human activity, and promoting sustainable tourism. In addition, scientists use research to help protect these forests and make sure they continue to exist in the future. However, the forests face various threats, such as climate change, deforestation, hunting, and pollution. Therefore, to ensure the survival of these crucial forests for future generations, it is imperative to adopt suitable measures such as sustainable forestry practices, minimizing human impact, and increasing awareness.

In conclusion, Italy's Ancient and Primeval Beech Forests are unique natural resources of great ecological, cultural, and historical importance. These forests have been here for thousands of years and show how diverse and beautiful our planet's ecosystems can be. □



**Valle Infernale**



# ❖ PAVILION RENTAL ❖



I.A.C.C. FOUNDATION

*Book The Pavilion For Birthdays, Family reunions, Corporate events!*

**MEMBERS: \$250 - (SUN.-FRI.), \$350 (SAT.)**

**NON- MEMBERS: \$400 (SUN.-FRI.), \$500 (SAT.)**

**CALL THE MEMBERSHIP OFFICE AT 518-456-4222**



**PLENTY OF WEEKDAYS AND WEEKENDS  
STILL AVAILABLE  
FOR YOUR PARTY THROUGH OCTOBER**

# I.A.C.C. IN THE COMMUNITY

Dear Anthony  
Thank you so much  
for The Italian  
Lunch; the Pasta,  
Meatballs, Rolls,  
and Salad were  
Delicious!  
Sincerely,  
Albany, NY  
V.A. Tony

The IACC Foundation is dedicated to supporting veterans and was proud to sponsor one of our VA luncheons once again. These events provide us with an opportunity to express our gratitude to those who have served our country by offering them a warm, delicious, home-cooked meal.

Our devoted team of volunteers worked tirelessly to ensure that each veteran was served with the utmost care and respect. We strongly believe in the importance of honoring and appreciating our veterans for their service, and our VA luncheons serve as a meaningful way to accomplish that. As we remain committed to supporting our veterans in any way possible, we aim to continue organizing and sponsoring more of these events in the future.

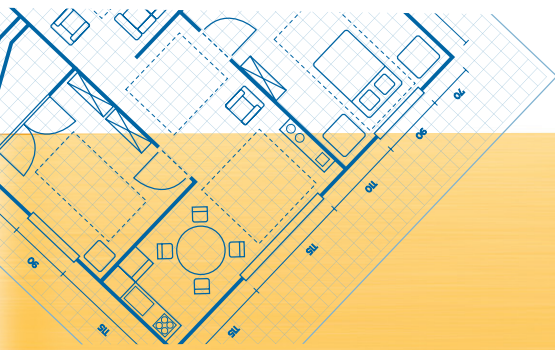


On Thursday, August 24, 2023, we have planned an exciting trip to the Saratoga Race Track. The Saratoga Race Track is a world-renowned horse racing track that has been in operation since 1863, and it has a rich history that dates back to the Civil War era. This is an event that you definitely don't want to miss!

If you're interested in joining us, please contact Maria Marchio at 518-438-9067, and we'll be happy to arrange carpooling. Alternatively, you can meet us directly at the Saratoga Race Track Carousel at 12:30, where we have reserved I.A.C.C. tables. Our table is in the lower Carousel. Please note that we are limited to 12 spots at our reserved table.

Don't worry about the cost; it is only \$22 per person, including access to the park and the race track. This is a great opportunity to enjoy beautiful Saratoga Springs, meet new people, and watch some exciting horse races. We hope to see you there!





# RECENT RENOVATIONS

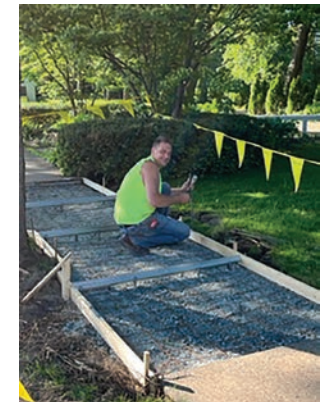
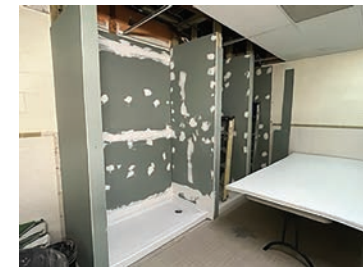
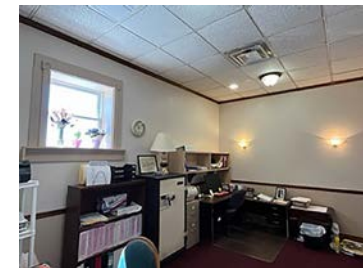


This year, in addition to the ongoing total reconstruction of our main ballroom and bathrooms by the Sheas, we have undertaken several improvement projects and upgrades as well. John Reylea led a total renovation of our shower areas in the pool bathrooms, stripping them down to the bare walls and building all new framing, sheetrock, and exhaust fans. He also added a handicapped shower. John installed an air conditioning system in our pavilion kitchen, broke through the cement outer walls and sheetrock to install a window in our office, and gave the office a fresh coat of paint for a nice, bright, new appearance. After a recent storm partially collapsed gutters by the pool area, John repaired them and also added four new downspouts to prevent flooding of the bocce courts. All of this is in addition to his usual excellent work repairing roof leaks when they occur.

Please support our members who do a great job for our club. To contact John for a project you may have, call him at 518-253-4588.

In addition to the abovementioned projects, we undertook some other significant projects. One of these was the removal and repair of the fallen sidewalk slabs between the pavilion and bocce courts. To ensure the longevity of this repair, we also installed new drainage in the sidewalk to prevent flooding during heavy rainfalls.

Another project we took on was the expansion of our pool area. Matt Sabatino, one of our talented members, did the excavation and built new pillars to make this expansion possible. We are proud to have such skilled members in our club who put in great effort to improve our facilities. If you are interested in hiring Matt for your excavation or (cement change to concrete) projects, please do not hesitate to contact him at 518-928-8016.



# TELEGRAMMI ...



## **EVEN THE ANCIENT ROMANS LIKED THEIR PIZZA**

Archaeologists in Pompeii said Tuesday they had found depicted on an ancient fresco the precursor to the modern-day pizza -- but without the cheese and tomatoes. The 2,000-year-old painting -- discovered in the middle of a half-crumbled wall during recent digs at the sprawling archaeological site -- depicts a silver platter holding a round flatbread, alongside fresh and dried fruits such as pomegranates and dates and a goblet filled with red wine. "What was depicted on the wall of an ancient Pompeian house could be a distant ancestor of the modern dish," said experts at the archaeological park in a statement. Pompeii's director, Gabriel Zuchtriegel, said the newly uncovered fresco shows the contrast between "a frugal and simple meal, which refers to a sphere between the bucolic and the sacred... and the luxury of silver trays and the refinement of artistic and literary representations."

## **ANCHE AGLI ANTICHI ROMANI PIACEVA LA PIZZA**

*Gli archeologi di Pompei hanno detto martedì di aver trovato raffigurato su un antico affresco il precursore della pizza moderna, ma senza formaggio e pomodori. Il dipinto di 2000 anni fa - scoperto nel mezzo di un muro mezzo sgretolato durante i recenti scavi nel vasto sito archeologico - raffigura un piatto d'argento con una focaccia rotonda, insieme a frutta fresca e secca come melograni e datteri e un calice colmo di vino rosso. "Ciò che è stato raffigurato sul muro di un'antica casa pompeiana potrebbe essere un lontano antenato del piatto moderno", hanno affermato in un comunicato gli esperti del parco archeologico. Il direttore di Pompei, Gabriel Zuchtriegel, ha detto che l'affresco appena scoperto mostra il contrasto tra "un pasto frugale e semplice, che rimanda a una sfera tra il bucolico e il sacro... e il lusso dei vassoi d'argento e la raffinatezza delle rappresentazioni artistiche e letterarie ."*

## **A TOURIST ENGRAVES THE NAME OF THE GIRLFRIEND ON THE WALL**

A tourist was filmed engraving a message on the ancient walls of the Colosseum in Rome using a set of keys. Another



tourist tried to ruin a historical beauty of the city, yet another who wants to leave a signature ignoring all the rules. In a video posted on Reddit, the man is seen using the keys to write "Hayley" on the wall - which would be the name of his girlfriend. While another tourist is filming, the boy looks at the camera and smiles. It is yet another disfigurement at the Flavian Amphitheater, so often targeted by many tourists from all over the world who never fail to smear or deface the remains of numerous archaeological finds. If identified, the perpetrator could risk a hefty fine.

## **SFREGIATO IL COLOSSEO: UN TURISTA INCIDE IL NOME DELLA FIDANZATA SUL MURO**

*Un turista è stato ripreso mentre incideva un messaggio sulle antiche mura del Colosseo di Roma utilizzando un mazzo di chiavi. Un altro turista ha provato a rovinare una bellezza storica della città, l'ennesimo che vuole lasciare una firma ignorando ogni regola. In un filmato postato su Reddit, si vede l'uomo usare le chiavi per scrivere «Hayley» sul muro - che sarebbe il nome della fidanzata. Mentre un altro turista sta riprendendo, il ragazzo guarda verso la telecamera e sorride. È l'ennesimo sfregio all'Anfiteatro Flavio, tante volte preso di mira da molti turisti di ogni parte del mondo che non mancano di imbrattare o deturpare i resti di numerosi reperti archeologici. Se identificato, l'autore potrebbe rischiare una multa salata.*



## **SILVIO BERLUSCONI, FORMER ITALIAN PRIME MINISTER AND MOGUL, DIES**

Former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi has died in Milan, his press office told CNN. He was 86 years old. He had a recent history of health issues and had been diagnosed with leukemia. As a former PM, Berlusconi will be granted a state funeral. The ceremony will

be held at the Milan Duomo on Wednesday. Long regarded as Italy's most colorful public figure, Berlusconi was elected

prime minister three times and served for a total of nine years, longer than anyone since fascist dictator Benito Mussolini. Leading Italian political figures have recognized Berlusconi's contribution, with Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni describing him as "above all a fighter" while former PM Giuseppe Conte recalled "he never lacked courage, passion, and tenacity."

### **MUORE SILVIO BERLUSCONI, EX PREMIER E MAGNATE ITALIANO**

*L'ex primo ministro italiano Silvio Berlusconi è morto a Milano, ha detto il suo ufficio stampa alla CNN. Aveva 86 anni. Aveva una storia recente di problemi di salute e gli era stata diagnosticata la leucemia. In quanto ex premier, Berlusconi avrà un funerale di stato. La cerimonia si terrà mercoledì al Duomo di Milano. A lungo considerato il personaggio pubblico più colorato d'Italia, Berlusconi è stato eletto primo ministro tre volte e ha servito per un totale di nove anni, più a lungo di chiunque altro dai tempi del dittatore fascista Benito Mussolini.*

*Personaggi politici italiani di spicco hanno riconosciuto il contributo di Berlusconi, con il primo ministro Giorgia Meloni che lo ha descritto come "soprattutto un combattente" mentre l'ex premier Giuseppe Conte ha ricordato "non gli sono mai mancati il coraggio, la passione e la tenacia".*

### **RARE FIND OF 24 ANCIENT BRONZES IN TUSCANY GOES ON DISPLAY IN ROME**

Statues were unearthed last year in what was a place of worship for both the Etruscans and Romans. A trove of bronze statues buried by mud and boiling water for thou-



sands of years before being found in the ruins of a network of ancient thermal springs in a small town in Tuscany are going on display in Rome. The 24 bronzes, mostly dedicated to the gods, are the largest discovery of their kind in Italy and were unearthed last year in the ancient springs of San Casciano dei Bagni, in what used to be a place of worship for both the Etruscans and Romans.

### **RARO RITROVAMENTO DI 24 BRONZI ANTICHI IN TOSCANA VA IN MOSTRA A ROMA**

*Le statue sono state portate alla luce lo scorso anno in quello che era un luogo di culto sia per gli Etruschi che per i Romani. In mostra a Roma un tesoro di statue di bronzo sepolte da fango e acqua bollente per migliaia di anni prima di essere ritrovate tra le rovine di una rete di antiche sorgenti termali in un piccolo paese della Toscana. I 24 bronzi, in gran parte dedicati agli dei, sono il più grande ritrovamento del genere in Italia e sono stati portati alla luce lo scorso anno nelle antiche sorgenti di San Casciano dei Bagni, in quello che era un luogo di culto sia per gli Etruschi che per i Romani.*



*Regina's*  
BY 2SHEA

2SHEA  
{ CATERING }

The large banquet hall will be closed for renovations from June 26th until our target date of reopening on September 10th, depending on the progress of construction. We plan to resume our Monday night buffet on September 11th, but this is dependent on the completion of construction. During the renovation, we will be hosting the Monday night buffets on **July 10th**, since the 3rd is a holiday weekend, and on **August 7th** in the pavilion. There will be no Sunday brunches at all during the ongoing construction.

### **PLEASE NOTE**

**Your safety is the top priority. To ensure safety, we ask everyone to avoid all construction areas. We all mitigate risks and contribute to smooth operations by staying out of active areas.**



## 2023 IACC SWIMMING POOL SCHEDULE

POOL PHONE 518-380-2066 (TO CHECK CONDITIONS)

MEMBERS MUST HAVE THEIR MEMBERSHIP CARD AVAILABLE WHILE AT THE POOL

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
May						
					26-Noon	27
28	29	30	31			
June						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	
July						
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
August						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
September						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17- 5PM	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Noon – 8:00 p.m.	10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Noon – 5:00 p.m.	Noon – 8:00 p.m. <b>Lap Swimming</b> 7:30-9:30 AM
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### IACC Pool Regulations

- Proper bathing attire required. No cut-off jeans in the pool.
- Clothes and towels are not to be hung on or over the fence.
- IACC is not responsible for lost or stolen articles in pool area.
- NO running or jumping, profanity, horseplay, or pets permitted.
- NO glassware permitted in pool area.
- Children under age 12 MUST be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult at all times in pool area.
- NO radios, cassettes, or CD players in the pool area.
- ALL babies and small children not toilet trained MUST wear a swim diaper at all times.
- Children using flotation devices must be accompanied by an adult in the water.
- Children using flotation devices are allowed in the shallow end of the pool ONLY.
- No smoking in the Pool area.
- Guests must be accompanied by a member and must register with the lifeguard on duty.**



# COLUMBUS DAY



GRAND GALA

SAVE THE DATE  
OCTOBER 21, 2023  
5:30 PM

PER TUA  
INFORMAZIONE  
(FOR YOUR INFORMATION)



## PARTISANS & PAESANI-ITALIAN RESISTANCE IN WORLD WAR II

By JOE SANO

**I**t is 1943 and Dictator Benito Mussolini's firm control over the nation since 1922 has begun to weaken. Military defeats in North Africa, unrest, and industrial strikes throughout the land sealed his doom. By July, the Allied armies were ready to move from the successful Sicily campaign and hit the Italian "boot." Mussolini pleaded with Hitler for more military aid, and Mussolini got it with one condition - Italy will be placed under Nazi German protection and authority.

By the end of the month, Mussolini resigned and was placed in "protective custody," and the new Italian government signed an armistice with the Allies by early September. The Germans quickly moved to increase their defensive positions and soon "rescued" Mussolini. He then declared a new Italian state - the Italian Social Republic. This new puppet Nazi-sponsored state created an immediate conflict with the government of King Victor Emmanuel III which had declared it was at war with

Germany. The Italian people hoped the ravages of war were over, but the 22 German Army divisions and six divisions under Mussolini were there to occupy the nation and bend the Italian people to their combined will.

The Italian Civil War began and lasted until May 1945. The German occupation forces clearly showed that the Italians were to be subservient and obedient. With little equipment or military expertise, the poorly equipped partisans faced one of the most formidable fighting forces in the world - the Wehrmacht.

The people rejected this yoke of repression. They would fight back. Partisan resistance (*resistenza*) groups began to form. The nation was, for all purposes, now split into two. The south was under Allied and the provisional Italian government, and the central/north was under German control. The central and northern regions would now experience the full onslaught of the Italian resistance against both the invaders and their puppet government.





The Tollot Brigade, pictured below, was very active in dismantling many of the explosive devices left by the Nazis on railheads, bridges, dams, and power plants.



**Tollot Brigade**

Usually following political affiliations, brigades formed under the banners of the Communists (Garibaldi Brigades), the Liberal-Socialists (Action Party) Brigades, the Socialists Brigades, and the Flamme Verdi/Catholic Brigades plus many smaller bands associated with villages throughout Italy. Young men who refused to be conscripted into the Fascist Army willingly joined these brigades alongside farmers, factory workers, professionals, and many women.

The CLN - National Liberation Committee became the umbrella organization that spoke for all the various resistance groups. As the Partisan groups grew in strength and expertise, the Nazis responded by using mass murders and public executions whenever they caught resistance members or against the populace as retaliation for resistance attacks.

One such polarizing massacre occurred in March 1944 after the bombing of a squadron of the SS/Order Police in Rome. While reports vary, the German occupiers stated that there would be 10 Italians killed for each of their dead. Victims were rounded up from the surrounding jails, from imprisoned Jews, and some were citizens grabbed off the street to meet the quota.

Gathered in the Fosse Ardeatine (Ardeatine Caves), an estimated 330 were systematically shot. The result was the annihilation of any distinction between civilians and combatants.

Soon after the D-Day invasion, British General Harold Alexander urged the Italian people to revolt against the occupiers. They needed no such encouragement.

My good friend, Rich Casagrande, shared his family's actions in the resistance. The woman in the picture is his aunt (dad's brother's wife). Her full name is Teresina DeLuca Casagrande, and she is still hale and hardy at 98. She joined the partisans (Tollot Brigade) north-west of Venice under the battle name Vera. That is "Vera" with the machine gun as an 18 or 19-year-old.



Teresina's husband was an Alpino (the mountain brigade) who fought with the Italian Army at Stalingrad and was captured there in 1943. He spent the rest of the war in a Russian POW camp. Many German prisoners died of starvation or frostbite, but the Russians occasionally fed the Italians. He survived, minus a couple of toes, and walked back to Italy after the war. His name was Rizzieri, and my friend was named after him.

After the massacre in the Ardeatine Caves, the fighting intensified, and as the Allies advanced northward, certain brigades like the Tollot Brigade turned their full attention to protecting the nation's infrastructure of dams, power plants, bridges, etc., from the retreating occupiers' planned sabotage. By July 1944, Florence was liberated from its German occupiers, and the mountains were filled with resistance units. These units forced the Germans to divert their numbers from the advancing Allied troops. The mountain fighting was fierce. Many believe the constant resistance guerilla attacks were a major aid to the successful Allied campaign against a dug-in foe. Additionally, the resistance in the North was marked by workers who walked off the job rather than aid the German war production, just another example of Italian resistance.

With the ultimate April 1945 capture and execution of Mussolini, Italy was free of the remnants of a dictatorship. The birth of the Italian Republic would soon be a reality. The 1947 Treaty of Peace saw the exit of the Allied Military Government of Occupied Territories and the birth of the new Italian Republic.

Many of today's Italian political parties can trace their roots back to the brave resistance fighter brigades who banded together to drive the invaders and their fascist supporters from their homes. Partisan



membership was estimated to grow from some 20,000 in May 1944 to over 200,000 by April 1945. By May 1945, the partisans took control of all towns and cities that the Allies had not reached. Over 35,000 partisans had died by the time Italy was fully liberated on May 2, 1945. These brave paesani are owed much by many. □



# 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY

## POOL PARTY BBQ



What a wonderful day it was to celebrate the 4th of July at our pool! The sun shone bright, the temperature was just right, and the pool was the perfect place to cool off. We are grateful to all of our friends who joined us on this special occasion. The potluck was a huge success, with everyone bringing a delicious dish to share. From salads to desserts, there was something for everyone. We would like to thank Joe Ingemie for his assistance in setting up and Tony Fazio and Bob LaMorte, our amazing grill masters, who cooked up over 100 hamburgers and 100 hot dogs! The smell of sizzling meat and the sound of laughter filled the air, creating a truly festive atmosphere. It was a day filled with fun, laughter, and great memories, shared with our beloved family and friends. We look forward to making more memories like these at our upcoming Ferragosto celebration.



# WOMEN'S LEAGUE

I can't believe it's August already! This month we will be celebrating Ferragosto. As usual there will be an abundance of food & friendship and we'll be ending the evening with the biggest bonfire in Albany!!

We would like to extend our prayers and condolences to Donna Zumbo and her family on the recent passing of their beloved mother, Anna.

The Women's League had to cancel our July meeting. Between the rain and everyone being on vacation during the summer, gathering together is difficult. For that reason, the officers have also decided not to meet in August. We will resume our gatherings in September.

We will continue collecting supplies to fill Backpacks for Kids for the Capital City Mission. These items have to be to them by August 15th. They are requesting the following items for back to school:

- 2 pocket folders
- 3 ring binders
- Wide rule loose leaf paper
- Notebooks (spiral and marble composition)
- Colored pencils and crayons
- Glue sticks
- Erasers
- Pencils
- Pencil Cases
- Pencil sharpeners
- Pens (blue and black ink)
- Rulers
- Scissors (round tip only)
- Markers

Thank you to all who already purchased items. If you are playing bocce, you can bring them on Tuesdays and I will be happy to collect them. If not, feel free to contact me via text or phone and we can arrange a time and place to meet. Buon Ferragosto!!

*Georjeann Greene*  
PRESIDENT



## Condolences

With a heavy heart, we inform our membership of the passing of Mrs. Anna Zumbo, a charter member of the organization and the mother of Donna Zumbo. Anna and her husband Joachim "Jack" were key contributors to establishing the IACC. They were one of the few pioneers who believed in the vision of this organization so much that they were willing to contribute \$500 upfront and an additional \$150 annually to ensure that this dream could become a reality.

Today we are all blessed to have the opportunity to be a part of the IACC community that Anna and Jack played a significant role in creating. As we mourn the loss of Anna, let us not forget the legacy she has left behind. Her dedication and unwavering support for the IACC inspire us all. Let us keep Donna and her family in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

**May Anna Zumbo** rest in peace, and may her memory be a blessing to all who knew her.



# CARING & SHARING

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Marylou Schiro  
Diane Simeone  
Debbie Simoni  
Paul Spadafora  
George Urciuoli  
Steve Wunsch  
Priscilla Yaciuk  
Donna Zumbo

## August Birthdays



### Welcome

*new members*

Joseph & Elizabeth Filippone

Monica Morrell

David Kownack

Angela & Reuben Bennett

Keith & Deanna Weiss



## Condolences

Our deepest condolences to longtime member **Anne Kenneston** on the loss of her son **Millard**



Our condolences to **Nick Mancini** on the loss of his nephew.



Condolences to the family of **Lou Karwowski** on his recent passing



# Mangia Bene E Vivi Bene!

By FRANK ZEOLI



## Sauerkraut

Whether during the hot summer months or during the coldness of the winter, there is nothing like homemade sauerkraut to go with your hotdogs, kielbasa or sausage. This is one of my grandmother's old recipes. It goes great with hot dogs in the summer or kielbasa in the winter. It takes a little bit to make but the results are so worth it.



Prep Time: 10 minutes | Cook Time: 45 minutes

### Ingredients

- 2 lb. of bagged sauerkraut
- ½ lb. of boneless pork chops or spareribs
- 1 can or bottle of beer (12oz) (not a dark beer or IPA)
- 2 tablespoons of vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon of granulated onion
- 1 teaspoon of smoked paprika
- Pinch of salt
- Pinch of black pepper



### Instructions

1. Trim and cut the pork into small cubes. Drain the sauerkraut from the package reserving the water from the package.
2. In a medium saucepan, add the vegetable oil. Once hot, add the pork. Sauté for about 10 minutes until brown. Add the sauerkraut and granulated onion and sauté for another 10 minutes.
3. Add the sauerkraut water, beer, smoked paprika, salt and pepper and simmer for about 25-30 minutes or until all the liquid has reduced.
4. Add the sauerkraut to your favorite dish and serve warm.



Look for more recipes in the next edition of the  
**SIAMO QUI**



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