



LA NOSTRA VOCE

2026 September/settembre

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello Club Members

September Edition, I'm pleased to share an update on our society's activities, progress, and upcoming plans.

Highlights

- **Membership Engagement:** None to report currently.
- **Facility Updates:** Minor touchup work is being done around the club from hosting festa.

September Events & Activities

- **Spaghetti Dinner:** Dinners will start September 10th. We will have a Spaghetti dinner volunteer meeting on Monday August 31st at 6 pm. If you would like to be involved please attend. All are welcome and we appreciate your help.
- **Queen of Hearts:** Every Monday starting at 5pm. The current pot as of 8/24/26 is \$18,677.00. We wish you luck. Food is available for purchase certain nights. Check our Facebook for the weekly menu. If you have a meal idea and would like to volunteer and help cook with one of our eight kitchen mangers, please let us know. No QOH September 7th due to Labor Day.
- **Festa:** Festa was an amazing success, thank you all who supported, volunteered and helped with festa. A wrap up meeting will follow once all numbers are in.
- **AICS Scholarship:** The winners are in. First place, Natalie Kohlhagen \$1,500.00 a year for 4 years. Second place, Averie Carlyle \$1,000.00 a year for 4 years. Third place, Abigail Shinnors \$750.00 a year for 4 years. Congratulations and good luck!

Save the Date

- September 13th Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage (39 people capacity), September 20th San Vittorino fest, October 3rd Columbus Day Banquet, October 12th Columbus Day Parade, October 17th Wine Contest, October 24th Halloween Party. Tickets for events are available on Zeffy, the AICS bar, or by contacting the event chair person. All info can be found in the newsletter.

Administrative Notes

- **Meetings:** The September board meeting will be September 2nd. General meeting is September 24th. Agenda items include fall event planning, scholarship updates, and facility improvements.
- **Financial Overview:** The Society remains in strong financial standing and fundraising efforts continue to support our club and its cultural initiatives. Thank you all for your time and efforts.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** As always, we rely on the generosity of our members. Anyone interested in helping with events, positions or chairing an event are encouraged to reach out.

A Personal Message

Our club has kept me busy, fortunately we have an outstanding group of people that help out at a moment's notice, and I am grateful for that. With that being said, I'm working on some ideas to ramp up events and involvement from members. Please do not hesitate to get involved. The more we can all do together, the stronger we will become to guarantee a long and successful future for our club. So stay tuned.

Always Together/Sempre Insieme

Dan Brandolino

President, American Italian Cultural Society

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CLUB HOURS

SUNDAY

6:30PM-11:00PM

MONDAY

5:00PM-9:00PM

THURSDAY

6:30PM-11:00PM

American Italian Cultural Society
1918 Donmaur Drive
Crest Hill, IL 60403
815-725-7450



CALENDAR

September / settembre

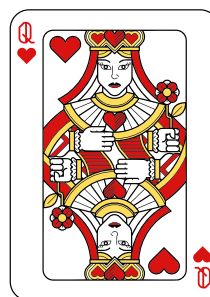


2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Board Meeting 7:00pm	3	4	5 NATIONAL CHEESE PIZZA DAY
6	7 ***** LABOR DAY ***** CLUB CLOSED	8	9	10 Spaghetti Dinner 11am-7pm	11 SPAGHETTI DINNER CLEAN UP 6:00pm	12
13 Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage 10am	14 QOH	15	16	17 AICS BOOK CLUB 12:00pm	18	19
20 SAN VITTORINO FEST 12:30pm	21 QOH Parade Costume Fittings	22	23	24 General Meeting 7:00pm	25	26
27	28 QOH	29	30 DEADLINE TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS FOR AICS ELECTIONS			

SEPTEMBER UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept 2	Wednesday	Board Meeting
Sept 7	Monday	Labor Day CLOSED
Sept 10	Thursday	Spaghetti Dinner 11am-7pm
Sept 11	Friday	Spaghetti Dinner CLEANUP 6pm
Sept 13	Sunday	Cabrini Pilgrimage 10am
Sept 17	Thursday	Book Club 12pm
Sept 20	Sunday	San Vittorino Fest 12:30pm
Sept 20-21	Sun/Mon	Parade Costume Fittings
Sept 24	Thursday	General Meeting 7pm
Sept 30	Wednesday	Deadline to Submit AICS Election Nomination



QUEEN OF HEARTS

Every Monday Night
5pm - 9pm

Last tickets sold at 7:30pm
Drawing at 8:00pm

Need not be present to win

SAVE THE DATE

Oct 3	Saturday	Columbus Day Banquet
Oct 8	Thursday	Spaghetti Dinner
Oct 12	Monday	Columbus Day Parade, Chicago
Oct 17	Saturday	30 th Annual Wine Contest & Tasting
Oct 24	Saturday	Halloween Party



AMERICAN ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY

presents

The SAN VITTORINO Fest

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

FEST BEGINS AT 12:30PM

Mass in honor of San Vittorino 1:00pm,
followed by Dinner catered by La Dolce Vita.

MUSIC, DANCING, AND REMINISCING.

- \$30.00 per person AICS Members
- \$35.00 per person Non-Members
- \$20.00 per person Children 12 years and under



Tickets may be
purchased at the
bar or online
using the QR code.



For more information,
please contact
Dan Brandolino
815-919-5440



DEADLINE TO PURCHASE
TICKETS IS
SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

AMERICAN ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY
1918 DONMAUR DRIVE, CREST HILL, IL 60403

PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT WILL BE DONATED TO
THE CHURCH OF SAN VITTORINO IN ITALY.



San Vittorino Fest T-SHIRT SALE!



ALL SHIRTS

\$25

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AVAILABILITY

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SHIRT THROUGH
ZEFFY



OR

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OR ALI
847-722-3456



WOMEN'S V-NECK



MEN'S CREW NECK



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SAN VITTORINO

A Small Village with a Proud Abruzzese Heritage



Nestled among the mountains of Abruzzo is **San Vittorino**, a small hamlet, or *frazione*, of Caramanico Terme in the Province of Pescara. Small in size but rich in history and tradition, San Vittorino represents the faith, family ties and close-knit way of life that have defined the mountain communities of Abruzzo for generations.

Perched above the Orta River, San Vittorino enjoys magnificent views of the Maiella, Morrone and Gran Sasso mountain ranges. In generations past, the hamlet was surrounded by gardens, orchards and cultivated fields. Families worked the land, neighbors depended upon one another, and the rhythms of everyday life were closely connected to the mountains and changing seasons.



The roots of San Vittorino reach far into the past. Historical records associated with the medieval **Chronicon Casauriense** contain a reference to **San Vittorino** as early as **1160**, mentioning clergy from "*Sancto Victorino*." This confirms the long history of the community and its religious life.

Like many small communities throughout Abruzzo, San Vittorino was deeply affected by emigration. Generations of Abruzzesi left their homeland in search of greater opportunities, particularly in America. They carried with them their faith, traditions, recipes, family stories and memories of the villages they left behind. Although an ocean separated them from Abruzzo, their connection to home endured and was passed from one generation to the next.



Orta River



Maiella Mountains



Cammino di Celestino

At the heart of San Vittorino stands the **Chiesa di San Vittorino**. The present small country church dates to the eighteenth century and, with its simple façade, adjoining rectory and bell tower, has long been a spiritual and communal center for the hamlet. For generations, the **Chiesa di San Vittorino** has represented far more than a building. It has been a place where families gathered in faith, celebrated important moments in their lives, honored those who came before them and maintained traditions handed down through the centuries.

That connection remains especially meaningful within the **American Italian Cultural Society**. Many AICS members have family roots in San Vittorino, and preserving the history and traditions of this small mountain community is an important way of honoring their parents, grandparents and ancestors.

It is in that spirit that the American Italian Cultural Society celebrates **San Vittorino Fest**. The celebration is not only an opportunity to gather for Mass, dinner, music and fellowship; it is also a way to strengthen the bond between our Italian-American community and the village from which so many of our families came.



Because the **Chiesa di San Vittorino** has always been an integral part of the life and identity of the village, proceeds from **San Vittorino Fest** will be sent to Italy to help support the church and preserve it for future generations.

San Vittorino may be a tiny village thousands of miles away, but for many of us, it will always be a part of home. By preserving its church, sharing its history and remembering those who came before us, we help ensure that the story of San Vittorino continues for generations to come.



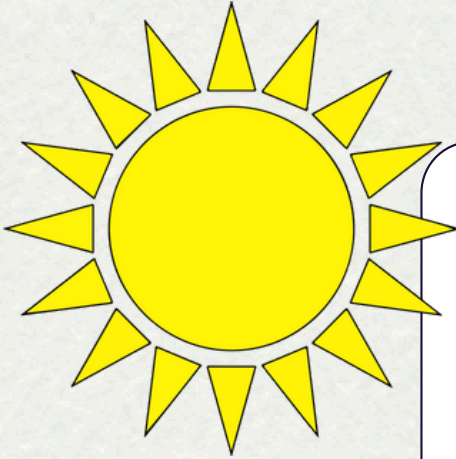
Festa In Photos

Thank You
To everyone who
volunteered and
attended
Festa Italiana
2026!

MEMBER NEWS

✧ VITA ASSOCIATIVA ✧

SUNSHINE REPORT



Get Well

Tom Giarrante

Sympathy

Anthony Capista and
Jerry Capista
on the passing of
their mother
Kathryn Capista Colombo

Congratulations

Joe and Mimi Governale
on their
60th Wedding Anniversary

If you are having or know someone who is having a milestone birthday or anniversary, know of an illness, condolence or a special congratulations for one of our members, please contact

Anna Binkley (815) 342-6524 / Email: anna9108@att.net or

Robin Margliano (815) 531-9116 / Email: rmargliano@aol.com



Would you like your ancestral home town in Italy featured in our newsletter? Contact Andrea 815-529-0036 or email andrea.divecchio@americanitalian.org and let's make it happen!



If you would like to volunteer at Spaghetti Dinner and were unable to attend the Volunteer's Meeting, please contact Andrea DiVecchio 815-529-0036 or Dave Margliano 815-531-9115

Nominations are being accepted for open Officer and Board of Director positions. The nomination form can be found on the last page of this newsletter and are also available at the bar. Deadline to submit nominations is Sept. 30, 2026. The election will be held on Nov. 19, 2026.

NOMINATIONS

Congratulations
— TO THE —
**2026 AICS
SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!**

- 1st PLACE** Natalie Kotlhagen
- 2nd PLACE** Averie Carlyle
- 3rd PLACE** Abigail Shinnors

**DO YOU HAVE A CLUB
EVENT IDEA?**
Let's Make It Happen!

MEMBERS, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Share your idea for a fun and memorable event—
WE WANT YOU TO TAKE THE LEAD!

From a movie night to a game night, a
Thursy Thursday to a cooking class,
wine tasting, bocce night, family fun day,
or anything you can dream up—
the possibilities are **endless!**

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

1. TELL US YOUR IDEA
Big or small, we want to hear it!
2. GET APPROVED BY THE BOARD
We'll review it together and give it the green light!
3. WE'LL HELP YOU BRING IT TO LIFE!
We'll support you every step of the way to coordinate a fantastic event!

ANY IDEA. ANY THEME. ANY OCCASION.
Let's Make Our Society Amazing-Together!

PRESERVE YOUR IDEA AND WE'LL TAKE IT FROM THERE!
CONTACT US: Alibrandino@gmail.com

Did you know?
THAT YOU CAN ACCESS
MEMBER INFORMATION
FROM OUR AICS WEBSITE?

- You can see all of our upcoming events
- Photos from the club
- Download forms such as hall rental and new membership applications
- Access our newsletters

There's also a **MEMBER PORTAL** where you can access information only available to our members which requires an access code.

THE ACCESS CODE IS:
AICS2024

Please visit our website
americanitalian.org
OR SCAN THE QR CODE

AMERICAN ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY
Preserving Our Heritage · Celebrating Our Culture · Building Our Community

SPAGHETTI DINNER Fun!

Good Food
Good Friends
Great Times!

Mangia!

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C O O K I E S V O L U N T E E R S A U C E
G R A V Y M E A T B A L L S A L A D B R E A D
P A R M E S A N C H E E S E S P A G H E T T I
C A R R Y O U T D I N E I N O N L I N E O R D E R
W I N E L A U G H T E R C U S T O M E R T H U R S D A Y
P A S T A C O O K E R M A R I N A R A B U S Y
M O R E P A S T A A P R O N H A I R N E T
S A L A D D R E S S I N G C H E E S E C U P S
E S P R E S S O C A M A R A D E R I E X Z Q
Q W E R T Y U I O P A S D F G H J K L Z X
Z X C V B N M Q W E R T Y Y U I O P L K J H
G F D S A P O I U Y T R E W Q P L M N B V
B V C X Z L K J H G F D S A M Q W E R T Y
P O I U Y T R E W Q L K J H G F D S A Z X

WORDS TO FIND

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------------|------------------|
| • Tickets | • Bread | • Pasta Cooker |
| • Bakery | • Parmesan Cheese | • Marinara |
| • Cannoli | • Spaghetti | • Busy |
| • Cookies | • Carry Out | • More Pasta |
| • Volunteer | • Dine In | • Apron |
| • Dining Room | • Online Order | • Hairnet |
| • Sauce | • Wine | • Salad Dressing |
| • Gravy | • Laughter | • Cheese Cups |
| • Meatball | • Customer | • Espresso |
| • Salad | • Thursday | • Camaraderie |

Italian Language Lesson

36 Essential Words



pane
el pan



latte
la leche



mela
la manzana



uovo
el huevo



pasta
la pasta



caffè
el café



piatto
el plato



bicchiere
el vaso



sedia
la silla



tavolo
el mesa



letto
la cama



armadio
el armario



finestra
la ventana



porta
la puerta



chiave
la llave



libro
el libro



penna
el bolígrafo



zaino
la mochila



orologio
el reloj



cellulare
el móvil



computer
el computer



borsa
el bolso



occhiali
las gafas



scarpa
el zapato



sole
el sol



luna
la luna



stella
la estrella



albero
el árbol



fiore
la flor



casa
la casa



macchina
el coche



bicicletta
la bicicleta



cane
el perro



gatto
el gato



cuore
el corazón



regalo
el regalo

AICS DIRECTORY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - OFFICERS

President	Dan Brandolino	(815) 919-5440	dan.brandolino@americanitalian.org
Vice President	Christina Hayden	(815) 409-0511	christinamhayden8@gmail.com
Recording Secretary	Todd Maland	(815) 791-5215	Todd.Maland@americanitalian.org
Treasurer	Marco Coladipietro	(815) 530-3516	Marco.Coladipietro@americanitalian.org
Sergeant-at-Arms	Carla Liburdi	((815) 931-0667	carla.l@americanitalian.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - TRUSTEES

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Catherine Cerri	(815) 355-2055	kat2478@aol.com
Dane Carlyle	(815) 585-3189	dcarlyle22@gmail.com
Tony D'Amico	(630) 308-0019	tdamico256@aol.com
Zak Kohlhagen	(708) 417-8402	Zak918@sbcglobal.net
Franca Liburdi	(815) 768-9812	francaliburdi@aol.com
Sharon Muhich	(815) 347-9299	muhich1946@gmail.com
Vanessa Pascente	(815) 274-9235	Vpascente71@gmail.com

CLUB CONTACTS

AICS General Email			officemanager@americanitalian.org
Bar Manager	Matt Mauzer	(815) 325-7631	mmauzer@att.net
Building/Grounds	Gary Binkley	(815) 342-6521	bink25002@yahoo.com
Call All	Sandi Doyle	(815) 409-0513	officemanager@americanitalian.org
Decorating	Robin Margliano	(815) 531-9116	rmargliano@aol.com
Festa Italiana	Dan Brandolino	(815) 919-5440	danbrandolino@aol.com
Hall Rental	Vanessa Pascente	(815) 274-9235	Vpascente71@gmail.com
Kitchen Manager			kitchenmanager@americanitalian.org
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News letter Editor	Andrea DiVecchio	(815) 529-0036	Andrea.DiVecchio@americanitalian.org
Office Manager	Sandi Doyle	(815) 409-0513	officemanager@americanitalian.org
Scholarship	Dan Brandolino	(815) 919-5440	danbrandolino@aol.com
Sunshine	Anna Binkley	(815) 342-6524	anna9108@att.net
	Robin Margliano	(815) 531-9116	rmargliano@aol.com
Welcome Committee	Vanessa Pascente	(815) 274-9235	Vpascente71@gmail.com
Website	Andrea DiVecchio	(815) 529-0036	Andrea.DiVecchio@americanitalian.org

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Funeral Director

Rich@farkasfuneralhome.com



Farkas
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Portfolio Management Director

Financial Advisor

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+1 815 705 8000

Andrew.Leoni@morganstanley.com

NMLS #11053000

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Email Newsletter:
Andrea.DiVecchio@americanitalian.org

For more information, visit our website at
americanitalian.org

SCAN
ME!



OFFICER & BOARD OF DIRECTORS



2026 NOMINATION FORM

Election • November 19, 2026



VICE PRESIDENT



SECRETARY

BOARD MEMBERS



AGE 18-40



AGE 41-60

1. _____
2. _____



AGE 61 & OVER

1. _____
2. _____



REMINDER

All nomination forms must be returned no later than September 30, 2026.