LA NOSTRA VOCE

2026 October/ottobre

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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



PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello Club Members

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

Highlights

- Membership Engagement: 12 new member applications were approved.
- Facility Updates: Club texting notification service is now active.

September Events & Activities

- Spaghetti Dinner: Second Thursday on the month, Volunteers are always needed from Monday to Friday.
- Queen of Hearts- Every Monday starting at 5pm. Congratulations to Filippo Liburdi on finding the Queen. The new pot is just shy of 5K already. 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.
- Festa: Our Festa wrap up meeting and thank dinner will be October 22nd after the general meeting. This year's Festa profited $44k. Great job everyone
- 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 Shinners $750.00 a year for 4 years. Congratulations and good luck.

Save the Date

- October 3rd Columbus Day Banquet, October 12th Columbus Day Parade, October 17th Wine Contest, October 24th Halloween Party. December 7th Martinis and Mistletoe
- Dates to Come: Santa's Little Shoppers Holiday Bazaar, Club Christmas Party, NYE Party, Prohibition/Speakeasy Party, Heritage Dinner "Tour of Italy."

Tickets for events are available on Zeffy, the AICS bar, or by contacting the event chair person.

Administrative Notes

- Meetings: The October board meeting will be cancelled due to spaghetti dinner. General meeting is October 22nd 7PM. Agenda items include fall event planning, financial stats 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

Fall is here, which means the outdoor activities are going to be coming to an end unfortunately. So I'm planning to ramp up indoor winter activities. I'm still working on the details. But movie nights, game nights, themed nights, a band or two, social events with other clubs, and sporting events are all ideas we are starting to work on. I especially want to focus on Sunday nights. So stay tuned.

Always Together/Sempre Insieme
Dan Brandolino
President, American Italian Cultural Society

CALENDAR

October /ottobre 2026

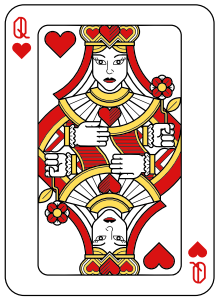
ITALIAN HERITAGE MONTH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Italian-American Heritage & Culture Month				1	2	3 Columbus Day Banquet 6:00pm
4	5 QOH	6	7	8 Spaghetti Dinner 11am-7pm	9 SPAGHETTI DINNER CLEAN UP 6:00pm; MOVIE NIGHT 7:00pm	10
11	12 QOH COLUMBUS DAY PARADE	13	14	15 AICS BOOK CLUB 12:00pm	16	17 Wine Competition & Tasting 4:30pm
18	19 QOH	20	21	22 General Meeting 7:00pm; Festa Meeting & Appreciation	23	24 AICS FAMILY FRIGHT NIGHT 6:00pm
25	26 QOH	27	28	29	30	31

OCTOBER UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 1 - 31 Mention "Club A"at time of purchase at Buffalo Wild Wings and AICS gets 10% of the sale

Oct 3	Saturday	Columbus Banquet
Oct 8	Thursday	Spaghetti Dinner 11am-7pm
Oct 9	Friday	Spaghetti Dinner *CLEANUP* 6pm **Movie Night** 7pm
Oct 12	Monday	Columbus Day Parade
Oct 15	Thursday	Book Club 12pm
Oct 17	Saturday	Wine Contest & Tasting 4:30pm
Oct 22	Thursday	General Meeting 7pm Festa Meeting & Appreciation Dinner
Oct 24	Saturday	Halloween Party 6pm



QUEEN OF HEARTS

Every Monday Night
5pm - 9pm

Last tickets sold for
QOH & 50/50 at 7:30pm
Drawing at 8:00pm

Need not be present to win

SAVE THE DATE

Nov 12	Thursday	Spaghetti Dinner
Nov 19	Thursday	AICS Elections 4-7pm No General Meeting
Nov 29	Sunday	Deck the Hall Decorate the Club for Christmas
Dec 7	Monday	Martinis & Mistletoe
Dec TBD - Santa's Little Shoppers Holiday Bazaar		
Dec TBD - Club Christmas Party		

EVENT INFORMATION

QOH



OCT 3



OCT 8



OCT 12



OCT 12



OCT 17



OCT 22



OCT 24



For More Information: → **www.americanitalian.org**

30 years ago club, member Dominic Alberico, started a wine competetion to showcase all of the homemade wine that our club members made. It was a friendly competetion that gave the winners "bragging rights" about their wine making skills! While many of our beloved winemakers, including Dominic, are no longer with us, we continue on with this annual tradition. Please join us as we honor all of our winemakers and celebrate 30 years of this fun event! Tickets must be purchased by October 10th and are available online or at the bar.



HONORING ITALIAN-AMERICAN
HERITAGE AND CULTURE MONTH

TO THE ONES WHO CROSSED FIRST

By Nonna's Italian Table

Look at the man in the middle.
His only good coat, brushed that morning, papers already in his hand because he has been rehearsing this moment for two weeks.

Look at the woman beside him in the shawl.

Look at the little girl at the far right in her Sunday dress and her polished shoes, because you arrived looking your best or you did not arrive at all.

And look at what's on the ground. Two suitcases and a few baskets. That is everything they owned on this earth. A change of clothes, a photograph, a rosary. Sometimes a handful of seeds tied in a cloth, because wherever this was going, there would be tomatoes.



Nonna's Table Photo

BETWEEN 1880 AND 1920, MORE THAN FOUR MILLION OF THEM CAME.

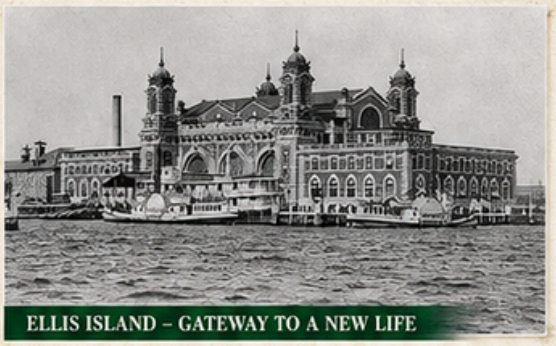
Sicily, Calabria, Abruzzo, Naples, Puglia, villages so small you need a good map to find them.

Two, sometimes three weeks below deck in steerage, sick and sleepless, sharing bread with strangers who were family by the time land appeared. And then the line.

First class walked off at the pier. Steerage went to Ellis Island, and the doctors stood at the top of the stairs watching you climb, looking for a limp, a cough, a wheeze.

A piece of chalk on your coat meant you were pulled aside.

Then the inspector: do you have money, do you have work, who is meeting you.



ELLIS ISLAND – GATEWAY TO A NEW LIFE

So many of the men crossed alone first. Five years, eight years, in a mine, on a railroad, laying brick, sending money home in an envelope every month until there was enough for the tickets.

There are children in this photo's generation who met their own father for the first time at fourteen.



BELOW DECK IN STEERAGE – TWO TO THREE WEEKS AT SEA



THE INSPECTION LINE AT ELLIS ISLAND

They were mocked for the way they talked, for the vowels at the end of their names, for the smell of garlic, for their dark skin. Families changed a name to get hired. They took the work no one else wanted and were told they were lucky to have it.

So they said nothing, and they worked, and they saved, and they bought a house, and then a shop, and then they put sons through universities that would not have let them through the door.

And when the country that mocked them went to war, they sent five and six and seven boys from a single house.

They never stopped being Italian for a single day. The language stayed in the kitchen, the saints stayed on the mantel, the garden stayed out back, the bread on Saturday, the gravy on Sunday, and the door open to whoever showed up hungry.



STEPPING ONTO AMERICAN SOIL WITH HOPE AND NOTHING MORE



"My grandfather used to say a man who's willing doesn't stay hungry long. That was the whole ask.

Not a hand out. A job."

Every one of us who cooks the way our grandmother cooked is still carrying a piece of what was in those suitcases.

♥

Past Events

AICS held some fun events during the month of September and we hope that you were there to share them with us. But in case you missed it, here's a few memories!

Sontag Car Show

On August 29th AICS participated in the Sontag Car Show. We served food and the bar was open to members and guests.

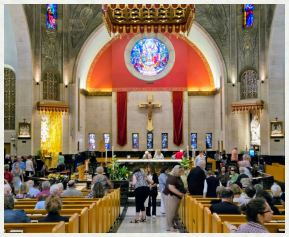




Club members Mike Lavazza entered his 1971 Plymouth Roadrunner and Rocky Pascente entered his 2014 Corvette Stingray in the show.

Cabrini Pilgrimage

Club members attended a pilgrimage to the Mother Cabrini Shrine in Chicago on September 13th.


The pilgrimage included tours of the shrine, Mass celebrated by Msgr. Kenneth Velo and a delicious lunch provided by Ron Onesti.

San Vittorino Fest

We had a beautiful celebration of San Vittorino on September 20th. Thank you to our chairwoman Connie Kabellis and her team of volunteers for putting together this cultural event. The Fest began with Mass, followed by an informative and uplifting video by Pasquale Carestia, who was also our DJ for the day. A delicious dinner was provided by La Dolce Vita followed by homemade cookies and pastries donated by our members. There was dancing and raffles as well. All proceeds from this event will be donated to the church in San Vittorino for maintenance and upkeep.







MEMBER NEWS

✱ VITA ASSOCIATIVA ✱

SUNSHINE REPORT

Sympathy

Our sympathy to Jeffrey and Teresa Tarizzo on the passing of Jeffrey's mother and club member Marilyn Tarizzo

Congratulations

Matt and Jessica Mauzer on the birth of their son Colston David

New Members

Pat & Cliff Adams
Clare Beasly
Margaret Brown
Adele Carlen
Kristina D'Amico
Nick D'Amico
Janice Dawson
Darin & Dana De Benedetti
Mario Fotino
Rosemay Lydon
Rosemarie Gervasi Nieves

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

KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR FOR

Plans are in the works for Movie and Activity Nights occuring twice a month on Sunday evenings. Your sugggestions are welcome.

Team Outing Bowling Night at Twisted Pin. Penny bowling on Wednesdays.

We're looking for members interested in forming a Pinochle Club at AICS. If you are interested please email Terry Covone at napervillepinochleguy@gmail.com

More details to come...

During the entire month of October, Buffalo Wild Wings in Shorewood will donate 10% of sales back to AICS if mention "TEAM A" at the time of your purchase. All details can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

BUFFALO WILD WINGS



COLUMBUS DAY

WORD SEARCH





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











COLUMBUS	OCEAN	TRADITION
DISCOVERY	JOURNEY	ITALIAN AMERICAN
EXPLORER	LAND	FAMILY
VOYAGE	HERITAGE	PRIDE
NEW WORLD	CULTURE	COMMUNITY
AMERICA	CELEBRATE	SCHOLARSHIP
CARAVEL	COURAGE	BANQUET
NAVIGATE	ADVENTURE	PARADE
ATLANTIC	HISTORY	COMMEMORATE



Italian Language Lesson

EasyItaliano

ITALIAN for BEGINNER LEVEL

EasyItaliano

100 TOPICS FOR DAILY LIFE

Italian Lessons IDIOMARY

VOWELS

A	E	I	O	U
(ah)	(eh)	(ee)	(oh)	(oo)

NUMBERS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Uno	Due	Tre	Quattro	Cinque	Sei	Sette	Otto	Nove

COLORS

- Rosso - Red
- Blu - Blue
- Verde - Green
- Giallo - Yellow
- Nero - Black
- Bianco - White
- Grigio - Gray
- Marrone - Brown
- Rosa - Pink

COMMON VERBS

- Essere - To be
- Avere - To have
- Fare - To do / To make
- Dire - To say / To tell
- Andare - To go
- Vedere - To see
- Dare - To give
- Trovare - To find
- Lasciare - To leave

COMMON EXPRESSIONS

- Ciao - Hi / Bye
- Grazie - Thank you
- Prego - You're welcome
- Scusa / Scusi - Sorry / Excuse me
- Per favore - Please
- Sì / No - Yes / No
- Come stai? - How are you?
- Sto bene - I'm fine
- Come ti chiami? - What's your name?
- Mi chiamo... - My name is...
- Non capisco - I don't understand
- Non lo so - I don't know
- Puoi ripetere? - Can you repeat that?
- Parli inglese? - Do you speak English?
- Dov'è...? - Where is...?
- Che ore sono? - What time is it?
- Mi dispiace - I'm sorry
- Buongiorno - Good morning / Good day
- Buonasera - Good evening
- Buonanotte - Good night
- A presto - See you soon

QUANTIFIERS

- Molto - A lot / Very much
- Poco - A little / Few
- Troppo - Too much / Too many
- Tutto - Everything / All
- Niente - Nothing
- Qualcosa - Something
- Abbastanza - Enough / Quite
- Tanto - So much / So many
- Alcuni / Alcune - Some / A few

QUESTION WORDS

- Chi? - Who?
- Che? - What?
- Quale? - Which?
- Quando? - When?
- Dove? - Where?
- Perché? - Why?
- Come? - How?
- Quanto? - How much?
- Quanti? - How many?

DIRECTIONS

- A destra - To the right
- A sinistra - To the left
- Dritto - Straight
- Dietro - Behind / Back
- Gira - Turn
- (N) Nord - North
- (S) Sud - South
- (O) Ovest - West
- (E) Est - East



easy Italiano

Impara italiano ogni giorno, un passo alla volta!

@easyitaliano

AICS DIRECTORY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - OFFICERS

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BUFFALO WILD WINGS™

AMERICAN ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY

Mention Team A and 10% of qualifying food sales get donated back to your organization 10/1/26–10/31/26



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