



Eye Opener

APRIL – MAY – JUNE 2015

DISPATCH NEWS
STANNNEWSLETTER APRIL MAY JUNE 2015

WWW.STANNCLUB.ORG

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings to all!

As we head out of a harsh winter, I hope everyone is preparing for a pleasant spring and exciting 2015.

As this is my first written correspondence, I want to convey my sincere gratitude to the many people who offered encouragement and support on becoming your new president. It is an honor and privilege to be in this position and I believe my effectiveness can only be defined by the hard work and participation from all of our members. We have demonstrated over the years that this is the strength of this great club. In times when other organizations struggle to remain relevant, the St. Ann Club has prospered. We have become a pillar of our community and our success is attributed to the great many of you who give your time and untiring energy.

Last year we celebrated our 100th anniversary. The programs and celebrations to recognize this milestone were designed to honor our membership both past and present. The roots of this club were firmly planted over the years and many of you have been instrumental in growing our community from those roots. As we head into our next century, I ask each and every member, young or old, male or female, new or lifetime to rededicate yourselves to our efforts. By doing so, we can create a momentum that will keep us strong and vibrant years into the future.

In the first three months, we have tried new things for the membership. We want the club to be a place for all to congregate and most importantly to have fun. An example of this was the Murder Mystery Dinner which was a huge success. We will continue to introduce new ideas to enhance our club community. It is also important that we promote our Italian-American heritage and I welcome any ideas that can help us do so.

We are a prideful organization. Let's make 2015 a year that sets the tone for our next hundred years. Please join me by continuing to do it with pride, effort and most importantly a genuine care for each other.

FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

An old proverb says, "No matter how long the winter, spring is sure to follow." We've just come through a very long, cold and snowy winter, but it is time for a new beginning. It's a time for trees to blossom and flowers to bloom. So it is true for St. Ann's. Our club has just ended a grand celebration of 100 years, and now we are in the infancy of our second century. We want to make St. Ann's stronger and better than ever. With everyone's help, we are sure to accomplish this goal. On behalf of the officers and board members of the Ladies Auxiliary, I want to wish everyone a very Happy Easter and a happy spring. Buona Pasqua a tutti!

EASTER

Discover a bit about the joy-filled purpose of your life through this Easter devotional. Jesus knew the purpose for his life on earth. He endured the cross with that purpose in mind. In "The Gift of Joy," Warren Mueller encourages us to follow Christ's example and discover the joy-filled purpose for our lives.

As believers and followers of Jesus, what is our purpose?

Some would answer that it is to love God while others might say that it is to serve him. The Westminster Shorter Catechism states that man's chief purpose is to glorify God and enjoy him forever. While considering these ideas, Hebrews 12:2 came to mind: "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him, endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Jesus looked beyond the suffering, shame and death he knew was to come and focused on the joy that would be.

What is this joy that so motivated him?

The Bible says that there is great joy in heaven whenever a sinner repents (Luke 15:10). Likewise, the Lord rewards good works and there is joy in hearing him say, "Well done good and faithful servant." Therefore, Jesus anticipated the joy that would happen when each person would repent and be saved. He also looked forward to the joy that would result from each good work done by believers in obedience and motivated by love.

The Bible says that we love God because he first loved us (1 John 4:19). Ephesians 2:1-10 tells us that by nature we are rebellious towards God and are born spiritually dead. It is by his love and grace that he brings us to faith and reconciliation. God has even planned our good works (Ephesians 2:10)!

What then is our purpose?

We can give him joy! What a wonderful God we have who honors sinners like us by giving us the ability to give him pleasure! He rejoices and experiences joy as we respond to him in repentance, love and good works that brings him glory!

Give Jesus the gift of joy for he is looking forward to it!

WHAT IS MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service of the United States of America. Over two dozen cities and towns claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day. While Waterloo N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966, it's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day.

Regardless of the exact date or location of its origins, one thing is clear – Memorial Day was borne out of the Civil War and a desire to honor our dead. It was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11. "The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land," he proclaimed. The date of Decoration Day, as he called it, was chosen because it wasn't the anniversary of any particular battle.

On the first Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, and 5,000 participants decorated the graves of the 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried there.

The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war).

It is now observed in almost every state on the last Monday in May with Congressional passage of the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90 – 363). This helped ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays, though several southern states have an additional separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead: January 19th in Texas; April 26th in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi; May 10th in South Carolina; and June 3rd (Jefferson Davis' birthday) in Louisiana and Tennessee.

RED POPPIES

In 1915, inspired by the poem "In Flanders Fields," Moina Michael replied with her own poem:

We cherish too, the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led,
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies.

She then conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers with the money going to benefit servicemen in need. Later a Madam Guerin from France was visiting the United States and learned of this new custom started by Ms. Michael. When she returned to France she made artificial red poppies to raise money for war orphaned children and widowed women. This tradition spread to other countries. In 1921, the Franco-American Children's League sold poppies nationally to benefit war orphans of France and Belgium. The League disbanded a year later and Madam Guerin approached the VFW for help.

Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922 the VFW became the first veterans' organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later their "Buddy" Poppy program was selling artificial poppies made by disabled veterans. In 1948 the US Post Office honored Ms. Michael for her role in founding the National Poppy movement by issuing a red 3 cent postage stamp with her likeness on it.

NATIONAL MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE

The "National Moment of Remembrance" resolution was passed on Dec 2000 which asks that at 3 p.m. local time, for all Americans "To voluntarily and informally observe in their own way a Moment of remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence or listening to 'Taps.'"

CLUB HELPS VETERENS

A small group of members led by Sal Fratino, prepared, delivered and served an Italian holiday dinner to help ABRI's (The Applied Behavioral Rehabilitation Institution) dba Homes for the Brave and Female Soldiers: Forgotten Heroes transitional housing programs located on Park Av. in Bridgeport.

This not for profit organization is dedicated to providing safe housing, vocational training, job placement, mental health and addiction service referrals, and life skills coaching to homeless individuals, especially Veterans. Since opening in 2002 ABRI has served over 900 homeless men and women from all over Connecticut and beyond with two transitional and one permanent supportive living programs all located in Bridgeport.

At the dinner, Joy Kiss, ABRI's Chief Executive Officer, reflected on the importance of recognizing and remembering both combat and non combat veterans for their service to their country, noting that these special meals foster a sense of community and a home like atmosphere for those who are working hard to overcome personal challenges to secure and maintain housing.

**SAINT ANN CLUB CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC 2015 – MONDAY, JUNE 22,2015
OAK HILLS GOLF COURSE, NORWALK, CT – GOLF, LUNCH & DINNER \$165 PER PLAYER**

Benefiting: Star, Family and Childrens Agency, Person to Person, Ken Crest of CT

Registration & Check In....11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Shot Gun Start 12:30 p.m.

Lunch • Beverage Cart on Course • Dinner at Saint Ann's Club with Open Bar following play.

Hole in One • 50/50 Hole • Longest Drive Men & Women • Closest to the Pin & Line Prizes and Raffle. Gift Package for Every Player.

For Information Call: Ken Romano (203) 442-3104 or Warren Fondu (203)246-0377 Reserve Early! (we will pair you up if you do not have a foursome) If you would like to be a sponsor there are a range of options, see contact numbers above.

MARINA SLIPS ARE AVAILABLE Contact Warren Fondu at 203 246 3307

PLEASE NOTE All guests must sign the visitor guest book at the bar excluding public functions per the State Liquor Requirement.

ENTERTAINMENT NOTICE

At events featuring a DJ, Karaoke or Live Music you may not bring in outside food. The only exception is a Birthday Cake. Admission for non members at a live music event is \$5. If you wish to have an all inclusive meal from the food truck the cost is \$20 and the \$5 non member is waived. Please contact Tony Cappuccia for menu and reservations. You may also order ala carte from the food truck or just enjoy the entertainment and bar. A portion of the dinner proceeds will benefit the club.

NEW MEMBERS

Donald Uva Sr. sponsored by Al Latte

Mike Rossi sponsored by Jay Ruggiero

Milton Buchta Jr. sponsored by Jay Ruggiero

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Robert Forcellina

LADIES AUXILIARY

NEW MEMBERS

Rosemarie Cocchia
Linda Goldman
Marlene Hammond
Marianne Scinto
Julie Signore
Kathi Sonntag
Sue Anastasia
Theresa Buono
Mary Capello
Idalina Caruso
Patricia Colcone
Rita Galbo
Diane Hyzy
Donna Lindstrom
Diane Marcotte
Ellen Marucci
Patricia Muephy
Danielle Russo
Virginia Tartaglia

SPONSORS

Ursula Cocchia
Carmela Martino
Anna Maris Mastrolillo
Connie Peters
Christy McWilliams
Marian Barbieri
Joanne Guaglione
Mary Ann Cappuccia
Jessica Cappuccia
Mary Ann Cappuccia
Joanne Guaglione
Lois Buchanan
Joanne Guaglione
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Lois Buchanan
Joanne Guaglione
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ST. ANN FEAST RAFFLE TICKETS

The St. Ann Feast is right around the corner. We will be holding our raffle again this year and have increased it to include 4 prizes. You will be able to pick up your tickets during the men's and women's meetings in May and June as well as at the joint meeting in July. In addition, you'll be able to pick up tickets before the men's and women's dinners in May and June. If you would like raffle tickets but will not be attending a meeting or dinner during these months, please contact Lisa Prince at 203-855-8231 or via email at StAnnClubRaffle@gmail.com or Maria Prince at 203-838-7286 in order to make arrangements to pick tickets up at the club.

FISHING TOURNAMENT 2015

Fishing tournament is scheduled for Sunday, June 12th at 5:00am and ending at 1:00pm followed by food and drinks.

ADDRESS CHANGES AND E-MAIL ADDRESSES

In an effort to bring the club more into the electronic age we are asking that anyone with an e-mail address, who hasn't done so already, to please send it to Ken Romano. His e-mail address is rmyken@aol.com. We will use these addresses to update events and schedules as well as save postage and be able to keep members informed on a timely basis.

If you move and need to change your physical address, for the men contact Ken Romano and for the ladies, contact Carolyn Shanahan at 203-8462140 or email her at Shannah776@gmail.com.

PLEASE READ

Any one wishing to contribute to this newsletter is encouraged to do so. Please contact Eric Fleisch at 847-7669 or by e-mail at BIGE101@optonline.net. The next edition will be sent on or about June 15, 2015.

SICK OR HOSPITALIZED MEMBERS

If you know any member that is sick or hospitalized contact J. Ruggiero at 866-1477, for men. For the ladies contact Barbara Antonelli at (203) 866-3953.

A gift basket and card will be sent. If anyone knows of an Auxiliary member who has been permanently placed in a nursing home please contact Betty Brink with the information at (203) 847-8133. We would like to keep in touch with them by sending a card.

April

- 1 Mens Meeting
- 4 Billy Genuario and the Boys. Free admission for members. Optional \$20 Dinner, salad, penne vodka, chicken Marsala, green beans. Portion of proceeds go to St. Ann. Must reserve by April 2
- 9 Ladies Meeting
- 11 Kick off to the next Centennial. Contact Arlene Peterson
- 16 Ladies Dinner
- 18 Karaoke (food truck)
- 25 DJ DOM
- 29 Men's Dinner

May

- 2 Pimpinella Band. Dinner special \$20 available
- 6 Men's Meeting
- 7 Ladies Meeting
- 9 DJ Mike (food truck)
- 10 Mother's Day Brunch
- 14 Wine Tasting
- 16 Karaoke
- 21 Ladies Dinner
- 23 Scholarship Dinner
- 27 Men's Dinner
- 30 DJ DOM

June

- 3 Men's Meeting
- 4 Ladies Meeting
- 6 Mercey Beat. Live Band. Beatles. 60s. Dinner special \$20
- 13 DJ DOM
- 18 Ladies Dinner
- 20 Family night dinner. Kids welcome
- 24 Men's Dinner
- 27 DJ DOM

July

- 11 Fuzzbone. Live band.

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Recording Secretary – Vincent Scicchitano
Bar Manager – James O'Brian
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