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 Financial Secretary Ken Romano
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 Treasurer Mike Tolla
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 Recording Secretary Vincent Scicchitano
 Bar Manager James O'Brien
 Assistant Bar Manager John Vozzo
 Public Relations Eric Fleisch
 Sergeant At Arms Ken Prince

MARINA COMMITTEE
 Chairman Tom Buono
 Dock Master Sal Covello
 Asst. Dock Master James O'Brien
 Treasurer Frank Felicissimo

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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 Andrew Troetti Vice Chairman
 Tony Cappuccia
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 Mike Gabriele
 Mike Tolla
 Ken Romano
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 Keith Stadler
 Walter Cerretani
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 Lou Imperato
 Charlie Robinson
 Steve Sabol

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 Vice President Joanne Guaglione
 Recording Secretary Marie Mappa
 Corresponding Secretary Barbara Antonelli
 Treasurer Maria Chuhta
 Financial Secretary Carolyn Shannahan
 Sergeant at Arms Mary Ann Cappuccia
 Public Relations Maria Vozzo

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
 Chairman of the Board Lisa Prince
 Vice Chairman Vicki Raymond
 Members Arlene Peterson
 Kate Fiore
 Cristina Francello

COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

- 2 Men's Meeting 8:00
- 3 Ladies Meeting 7:30
Member Appreciation
- 5 Private Party
- 12 Tony will find a Band 7:30
- 13 Columbus Day Parade 11:00
Eagles Club Start
- 17 Ladies Dinner 7:30
- 19 Awards Dinner \$35.00 7:30
- 26 Adult Halloween Party 7:30
Costume Optional
- 27 Children's Halloween Party 2:00
- 30 Men's Dinner 7:30

NOVEMBER

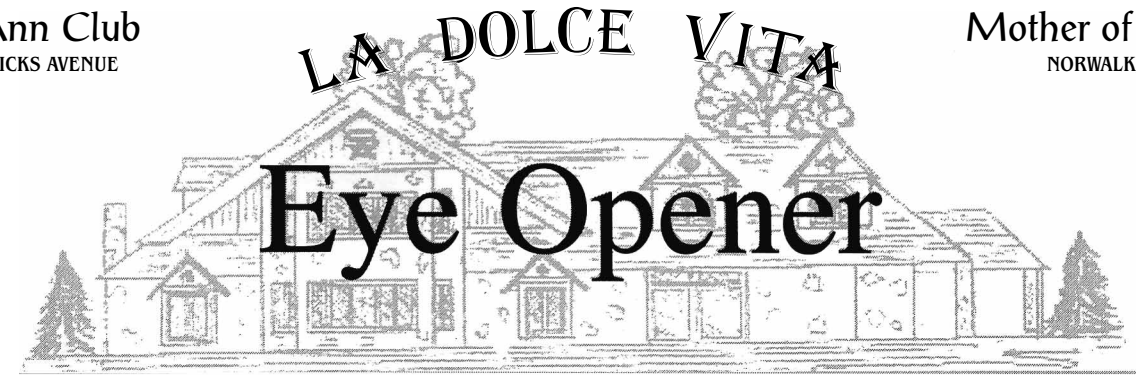
- 2 Aneurysm Dinner \$35.00 7:30
- 6 Men's Meeting 8:00
- 7 Ladies Meeting 7:30
Officer & Board Nominations
- 9 Private Party
- 15 Pizza on the patio \$10.
Green Eyed Lady Band
- 16 Private Party
- 21 Ladies Dinner 7:30
- 22 Private Party
- 23 Craft Fair 10:00-4:00
Contact Toni Wallace (203) 984-2930
To reserve table space.
- 27 Men's Dinner 7:30
- 30 No Entertainment

DECEMBER

- 4 Men's Meeting 8:00
- 5 Ladies Meeting 7:30
Election Officers & Board
- 6 Private Party
- 7 Private Party
- 8 Children's Christmas Party 2:00
- 12 Ladies Christmas Party 7:30
Members Only
- 14 Country Christmas Party \$35.00 7:30
Full Country Dinner -
Old & New Country Music
Line Dancing -
Renowned Country Singer D J Dom
Contact Tony @ (203) 515-7706
- 21 Men's Christmas Party 7:30
- 31 New Year Eve Party \$75.00 7:30
Reservations Contact
Chris Iannacone (203) 722-8104

Saint Ann Club
 16 HENDRICKS AVENUE

Mother of Mary, Inc.
 NORWALK, CT 06851



October - November - December - 2019

DISPATCH NEWS

WWW.STANNCLUB.ORG

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear St. Ann Members

Thanks to the hard work of our membership I am pleased to report that our feast set a new record for 2019. We had 4 days of fantastic weather and the membership put forth a monumental effort as always. Thanks of course, to the feast chairman Pat Mobilio. Pat put in a ton of work and his efforts paid off. He was thrown a curve ball when the ride operator told him he would not open on Sunday due to a death in his family. Patrick scrambled and found someone to provide inflatable rides. Pat thanks for your hard work and dedication and thanks to the members that worked that weekend.

We had two successful pizza parties and the Italian American Police Society held a car show and we were able to sell food for that event. We sold over \$3,000 for that one-day affair. Again, thanks to the members that worked at the car show. Special thanks to Lisa Prince and Carolyn Shanahan for running much of the food concession. The club held a member appreciation dinner and the turnout was better than expected.

The club closed its books on June 30th and Mike Tolla reported at the September men's meeting, that the Saint Ann Society of Norwalk donated over \$60,000 last fiscal year. The previous year that number was \$38,000. Our organization is doing good for our community and we all should be proud of our club. It is also noteworthy that we have basically the same amount of assets as the previous year. That means we raised that \$60,000 and gave it to needy causes.

I would like to point out that our bar did over \$68,000 last fiscal year. That number is up by \$13,500 from the previous year. Thanks go to James O'Brien and his staff for their hard work. James is at the club almost every day. No one sees how much work it takes to run the club. It is a monumental effort. I encourage our newer and younger members to get involved volunteering. Remember that our club supports many worthwhile causes throughout the area.

The next time you visit the club, you will notice that we have activity known as the "ditch project" underway. We are filling in the gully between our property and 148 East Ave. Keith Stadler and Charlie Robinson are spear heading that effort. It should be finished by the end of September. Chris Iannacone did all of the leg work in clearing the way for the project with the city of Norwalk, and we thank him for his efforts. Kenny Romano, thanks to his close relationship with our neighbors, got approval from 148 East Avenue to do the project. The original estimate for this project was \$15,000. Thanks to Keith it will come in at a fraction of that cost. Any help you can give to Keith will be appreciated.

As I write this update it is September and that means we are back to our monthly dinner programs. Thank you in advance to our chairmen, setup staff, prep staff and waiters. Without you this would be impossible. In addition, December will be a busy month as usual with the ladies and men's Christmas parties and the children's party. I think we may have a new Santa Claus this year. Stay tuned for more on that. **I want to wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season.**

As always it is the incredible membership of our organization that keeps us moving forward. Thank you for all of your help and hard work.

~ Mike Gabriele

A NOTE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT AND ENTERTAINMENT DIRECTOR

I want to thank all the members for their hard work and dedication. As a club we donated. \$65,000.00 to Charity last year. That's an amazing number. It would not possible without volunteers.

Keep up the great work, and thanks once again. Tony Cappuccia

FROM THE LADIES AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

I hope you all had a wonderful summer. Thank you to all the volunteers who worked at the St. Ann Feast and all of the club events. We are so grateful for all that you do. Without your hard work and dedication our club would not be as successful as it is. Fall is right around the corner and with that is a reminder of upcoming Auxiliary events. So as not to miss any check the Coming Events. As we enter the holiday season don't forget about our Holiday Craft Fair on November 23rd from 10:00-4:00. If you are interested in a table give me a call (203) 984-2930. We are also asking for donations for our raffle baskets (you do not have to make a whole basket - you can donate items to put into a basket). Contact Camille Andreozzi (203) 849-0199. We are also asking for candy donations for our Kids Halloween Party October 27th 2:00-4:00, contact Maria Vozzo (203) 722-3223. On behalf of the Auxiliary Officers and the Board Members, we wish you a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

~ Toni Wallace

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COLUMBUS DAY PARADE AND PASTA DINNER

On October 14th the parade will start at the Eagles club at 11am and proceed to the Heritage Wall for a ceremony , then back to St. Ann’s for a Italian mass and pasta and meatball dinner. The parade will consist of the Italian Police Society, Knights of Columbus, Sons and Daughters of Italy, St. Ann’s Club, Police Cadets, Fire dept, Norwalk Hospital. The same band we used for our procession to St. Thomas for our Feast will march as well. If you are able, please plan to march and show your support for our Italian Heritage and then enjoy some pasta and meatballs. Questions; Contact Al Latte (203) 984-6885

SOME HISTORY ON COLUMBUS DAY

Many may be surprised to know that one of Italy’s most famous sons, Cristoforo Colombo, is not really celebrated in Italy itself. However, if Italy’s Economic Development minister gets his way, that may soon change.

Perhaps a side-effect of coming from a country that has dozens upon dozens of famous explorers, scientist and artists - or simply because the financing of Columbus, a Genoa native, actually came from Spain, there was never a real focus on Columbus achievements in Italy even though it is celebrated in the US, Argentina, Chile and Mexico.

Minister Scajola said that such a day would also commemorate the life and work of the late Italian senator and leading international Columbus scholar Paolo Taviani, credited with conclusively establishing the explorer’s birthplace as Genoa. “Genoa brings him to mind in a particular way because this was where he was born, of this we are certain,” said the minister. “But this was also where Emilio Taviani was born and lived - the man who made it his life’s work to certify the Genoese origins of Columbus”.

Scajola expressed concern that Columbus Day received such little attention in the country of his birth. “In the US and in other countries it is a national festival and I really believe Italy should do more to commemorate it,” he said. The minister recalled that a national committee had been set up a few years back to assess the idea but had come to nothing. He said it was now up to the authorities and the public to work towards commemorating both Columbus and Taviani, which he said would be a “great opportunity” for Genoa.

Columbus’ initial 1492 voyage came at a critical time of growing national imperialism and economic competition between developing nation states seeking wealth from the establishment of trade routes and colonies. In this sociopolitical climate, Columbus’ far-fetched scheme won the attention of Isabella I of Castile. Severely underestimating the circumference of the Earth, he estimated that a westward route from Iberia to the Indies would be shorter and more direct than the overland trade route through Arabia. If true, this would allow Spain entry into the lucrative spice trade - heretofore commanded by the Arabs and Italians. Following his plotted course, he instead landed within the Bahamas Archipelago at a locale he named San Salvador. Mistaking the North-American island for the East-Asian mainland, he referred to its inhabitants as “Indios”.

The anniversary of Columbus’ 1492 landing in the Americas is observed as Columbus Day on October 12 in Spain and throughout the Americas, except that in the United States it is observed on the second Monday in October.

HALLOWEEN, ALL HALLOWS EVE OR ALL SAINTS’ EVE - 31st OCTOBER

The origins of Halloween, or All Hallows Eve, are disputed. It may date back to the Ancient Roman end-of-harvest feast for Pomona the tasty goddess of fruits and seeds. Others suggest that it came from the Ancient Roman Parentalia festival of the dead. While many believe that it’s a Christianised version of the Celtic pagan festival of Samhain marking the end of summer and beginning of winter.

Either way, the festival hovers between the worlds of the living and the dead, light and dark, summer and winter, using humour, Jokes and “tricks”, to mock death and confront its power.

For Italians, however, Halloween is a relatively new craze. You can find Halloween sweets in some of the larger cities like Venice or Florence and some families take their children trick or treating whilst bars and clubs host Halloween nights. But you’re unlikely to see as many pumpkin lanterns carved with grotesque designs to ward off evil as you would in the UK or USA.

Ultimately this is not an authentic Italian festival although it’s gradually being adopted to the amusement of youngsters and the dismay of the new Pope. Francesco believes that Halloween encourages devil worship suggesting last year that it be changed to Holyween, with kids dressing up as saints instead of evil spirits. Sadly for Francesco, though, I don’t see Holyween catching on any time soon.

OGNISSANTI, ALL HALLOWS DAY. OR ALL SAINTS’ DAY - NOVEMBER 1st

Ognissanti is highly significant for Roman Catholics around the world as they gather to celebrate saintliness, honor the saints (or hallows, hence All Hallows Day) and commemorate martyrs of the Christian church. All Saints Day is believed to have originated in the 3rd or 4th century with Pope Gregory IV making it a Catholic holiday in 835 AD. More recently, in 1949, the Italian Constitution placed All Saints’ Day among those considered “holidays” with a prohibition on carrying out certain legal acts.

Ognissanti is a holy day of obligation for Catholics, which for some includes a vigil for the saints, and is closely linked to *IL Giorno dei Morti*, the day of the dead. In fact the link between the two days is so close that celebrations almost run into each other!

IL GIORNI DEI MORTI, THE DAY OF THE DEAD OR ALL SOULS DAY - NOVEMBER 2nd

All Souls Day begins at dawn with a requiem mass for the dead. And although people held festivals for the dead long before Christianity began, today’s commemorations date back to the 10th century when Saint Odilo, Abbot of the monastery in Cluny, France, suggested the celebration of the dead. Church bells toll while Italians give alms and prayers for the dead, particularly those souls stuck in purgatory. Many people clean and decorate the graves of family members with flowers, usually chrysanthemums, and candles although this practice is less common than in the past.

But much like Halloween, All Souls Day is also a day for fun and, more importantly, food.

In regions such as Piedmonte and Lombardia people believe that the souls of the dead come into communication with the living on All! Souls Day and therefore make food for them, set a place for them at the dining table or leave bottles of water for them to drink.

Sicilian children leave their shoes outside doors and windows whilst praying for the souls of the dead hoping that they will be filled with gifts. Crunchy, clove-scented cookies called “bones of the dead” are also made in Sicily especially for the day.

Meanwhile, further north, in Rome couples traditionally announce their engagement on All Souls Day.

And the Veneto region celebrates the dead with sweet almond fava or fave dei morti (beans of the dead) biscuits and cofognata sweets of sugared “*duice de membrillo*” or quince apple jelly made with the pulp of the *mela cotogna* fruit. Legend has it that fava beans, which the biscuits are intended to represent, were a direct line of communication between the dead and living worlds. And in fact reference to lava beans as part of the funeral ceremony dates back to the ancient Greeks, Egyptians and even Peruvians so this is clearly an ancient rite associated with the dead. Ultimately, the solemn, serious meanings of each of the 3 festivals to the dead are gradually changing, with the religious origins increasingly take second place. This time of year is often the backdrop to truffle fairs, music and cultural festivals and a host of events marking the end of summer and the start of the performing arts season so there is plenty to occupy locals and visitors. But although the rituals and rites may change over the years Italians still place great importance on respecting their dead.

So what will you be doing? Have you got your witch costume ready for Halloween or will you be commemorating the spirits of your deceased relatives? If you have a traditional way of marking this important crossing point between light and dark, summer and winter, life and death, share it by leaving a comment below. And in the meantime I can heartily recommend tracking down the ghosts and ghouls of Venice on Halloween night with a ghost tour! Happy Halloween everyone!

NEW MEMBERS

John McDonald sponsored by Donald Uva 1st Reading was Sept 4, men’s meeting.

Jeff DeRosa sponsored by Andrew Troetti / Lou Caruso sworn in at the men’s meeting September 4

Fred Heibeck sponsored by Charlie Robinson sworn in at the men’s meeting September 4

Sky Mercede sponsored by Mike Gabriele sworn in at the men’s meeting September 4

Jake Sweeters sponsored by Jeff Wallace sworn in at the men’s meeting September 4

BYLAWS CHANGES APPROVED AUGUST 4TH, 2019 MEETING.

Change the number of board members from the current 13 to 15. The Bar Manager will automatically be on the Board. The outgoing President will automatically be on the Board. In the years where there is not an outgoing President the members will elect a sixth Board member. All necessary changes will be made to the appropriate bylaw articles.

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 contact Carol Shannahan at (203) 846-2140 or email her at Shannahan776@gmail.com.

PLEASE READ

Anyone 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 January 1, 2020

If you know any member that is sick or hospitalized please bring it to the attention of the Board of Directors or Eric Fleisch at 847-7669 or by e-mail at BIGE101@optonline.net. 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.