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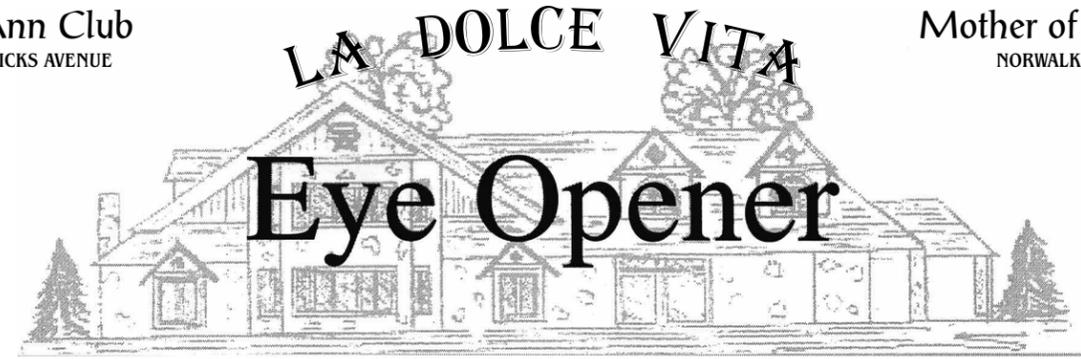
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Saint Ann Club
 16 HENDRICKS AVENUE

Mother of Mary, Inc.
 NORWALK, CT 06851



January - February - March - 2020

DISPATCH NEWS

WWW.STANNCLUB.ORG

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members

First, I would like to wish you a happy and most importantly healthy holiday and new year. I am happy to report our club is in fantastic shape. If you haven't been down recently please come and look at our new landscaping and walkway to 148 East Ave. It is beautiful. Thanks to Ken Prince, Keith Stadler, Charlie Robinson and Joe Tamburro. A fantastic job.

We had the club repainted last month and it looks new and fresh. Thanks to Joe Chetta for a great job and thanks to Jeannette Iannacone for decorating the club for Christmas. The place looks really good.

Lastly thanks to all of our volunteers that worked at our numerous dinners, our golf outing and our very successful feast. These were great events and you helped us raise money needed for many great causes.

~ Respectfully, Mike Gabriele

FROM THE LADIES AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Hello everyone, I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas. We had a very busy 2019 with our sold out dinners our Mother's Day Brunch and our Craft Fair. We've tried some new things, Family game day, St. Ann beautification day, and we ended the year with Christmas caroling at Notre Dame Health & Rehab Center where each patient was given a gift of warm socks, light up necklaces and sudoku or word find books (I am not sure who had more fun, the patients or all of our carolers) . I would like to take this time to say thank you to all of our many volunteers who make our events a great success. Without you we could not do what we do and have a thriving club. I am very proud of the many accomplishments we have had and even prouder to be a part of such an extraordinary club. I wish all of you a very Happy & Healthy New Year!

~ Toni Wallace

JANUARY 2ND JOINT MEETING AT 8:00 P.M.

Please note that the January joint meeting will be held Thursday January 2nd at 8:00 pm. The Board and membership decided to make the change due to Wednesday Jan 1st being a holiday and that there is a conflict of scheduling the following Wednesday. PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND

SAINT ANN CLUB 10TH YEAR CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC WILL BE HELD ON JUNE 22, 2020

If you like golf, save the date. As you know this is one of our top fund raisers. Ken Romano is the chairman and he would like everyone to find sponsors and purchase flags and tees. Questions. Call Ken at 203-442-3104

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING THE ITALIAN HOLIDAY OF FERRAGOSTO

Ferragosto, or Assumption Day, is an Italian national holiday and holy day of obligation in the Catholic Church. Celebrated on Aug. 15, Ferragosto is the height of the Italian vacation season. While many businesses in the larger cities may be closed, museums and tourist shops will be open and bustling.

Millions of Italians take their annual vacations in the two weeks before or after August 15, meaning highways, airports, train stations, and beaches will be packed to the gills. Around September 1, when Italians go back to work and kids get ready to return to school, businesses go back to regularly scheduled hours and practices.

This national holiday has a history that goes back centuries, even before the Catholic holy day, to the founding of ancient Rome itself. The Roman emperor Caesar Augustus (Octavian), the first Roman emperor, held the first iteration of Ferragosto, called the Feriae Augusti, in 18 BCE. The date commemorates Augustus' victory over his rival Marc Antony at the Battle of Actium.

Many ancient Roman festivals were held in August, including the Consualia, which celebrated the harvest, and several of the ancient traditions started during Augustus' time are still part of modern Ferragosto celebrations today. Horses are adorned with flowers and given the day off from any agricultural duties, for instance.

The Palio di Siena horse race, held on July 2 and August 16 as part of Ferragosto, also has its origins in the Feriae Augusti celebrations. According to Roman Catholic teachings, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary commemorates the death of Mary, the mother of Jesus, and her bodily assumption into heaven after the end of her life on earth.

COMING EVENTS...

JANUARY

2 Joint Meeting 8:00
 9 Game Dinner 7:00
 11 Private Party
 16 Women's Dinner 7:30
 18 Private Party
 25 EVERYTHING ELVIS
 FEATURING DJ DOM AND
 JIM PELLEGRINO 7:30
 29 Men's Dinner 7:30

FEBRUARY

1 New Orleans Beatniks Band 7:30
 5 Men's Meeting 8:00
 6 Women's Meeting 7:30
 8 Karaoke 7:30
 15 Valentines Dance. Leigh Henry Band 7:30
 20 Women's Dinner 7:30
 21 Malta House Dinner 7:30
 22 Murder Mystery 7:30
 Proceeds go to pancreatic cancer
 26 Men's Dinner 7:30
 29 Ct Contacts 7:30

MARCH

4 Men's Meeting 8:00
 5 Women's Meeting 7:30
 7 DJ DOM DOO WOP & OLDIES 7:30
 14 St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance 7:30
 Featuring BILLY GENUARIO AND THE BOYS
 19 Women's Dinner 7:30
 21 Private
 28 Old School Band 7:30

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Like many Christian holy days (including Christmas and Easter) the timing of the Assumption was slated to coincide with a previously existing pagan holiday.

During the Fascist Era in Italy, Mussolini used Ferragosto as a populist holiday, making special travel offers to the working classes that allowed them to visit different parts of the country. This tradition is still alive in the present era, with many travel discounts promoted for the Ferragosto holiday period.

You'll find celebrations all over Italy around this day, often including music, food, parades, or fireworks. Here are a few popular Ferragosto festivals held across Italy on August 15.

Rome's Gran Ballo di Ferragosto fills Rome's squares with live dance performances. There's a different type of dance in each square.

Cappelle sul Tavo, near Pescara on the Abruzzo coast, celebrates with the Palio delle Pupe, huge effigies paraded through the streets at night.

During the procession, they eventually explode with fireworks.

Sassari in Sardinia holds the Festa dei Candelieri that dates back to the 16th century. In this exciting festival on Aug. 14 and 15, you'll see a race with teams of men bearing huge candles.

Siena, in Tuscany, runs its second Palio race in the town's main square.

Girifaico in Calabria celebrates the Feast Day of Saint Rocco on Aug. 16.

FUN FACTS ABOUT ITALY

Italy, officially known as Italian Republic is the country situated in the Southern Europe. In terms of population, Italy is 5th and 23rd most populated country in Europe and World respectively. Let us know some more interesting facts about Italy

- Italy has been nicknamed Bel Paese meaning beautiful country.
- The official name of Italy is Repubblica Italica (Italian Republic).
- The country looks like a high heeled boot in shape!
- Italia means calf land. The name may be derived from the picture of the bull, symbol of the southern Italian tribes.
- Parma in Italy is where the Parmesan cheese originated.
- The Italians also have created other varieties like Mozzarella, Provolone, Ricotta, and Gorgonzola.
- Italy has more volcanoes than the other European countries. There is a fault line in the tectonic plates under the country.
- Etna, Vesuvius and Stromboli have erupted in the last hundred years and are major volcanoes.
- The Italians are not spared of Earthquakes either. About 100,000 people died in a 1963 quake. In 1980, 3000 people were killed in one that shook Naples.
- This one is probably one of the most interesting facts of Italy: In 1454, a real human chess duel was held to decide who would win the hand of a beautiful girl in Marostica in Italy.
- Even nowadays, in the even numbered years, in September the piazza becomes a live chess board.
- Dante Alighieri (1265-1321), Francesco Petrararch (1304-1374), Giovanni Boccaccio (1313-1375) are the all time famous Italian authors. They are known as the Three Fountains.
- The Divine Comedy by Dante is tremendously influential on the literature.
- Dante is also considered the Father of the Italian literature.
- Soccer; Italians got introduced to the sport in the late 1800s by the British. Mussolini in 1930 promoted the sport to an international level.
- Fans are called tifosi, which meant carrier of typhus. The Italian fans display rowdy behavior and lack inhibition.
- The ice cream cone was invented by the Italian.
- The Espresso was invented by an Italian who did so to reduce breaks.
- The Italians invented the thermometer.
- They also invented the typewriter.
- Italians invented pizza and ice cream

There are many interesting facts about Italy, now let us look at some Bizarre Facts about Italy:

- The Italians did not apologize if they felt that they were not at fault. Repentance is best left to confession.
- Drawing with crayons on pavements was criminally equal to beggary and is punished.
- Depending on whether you get one or two invites to a wedding, you attend the official ceremony if you get one and are invited to drinks also, if you get the second one.
- Italian people are very superstitious, considering the fact that they have 150,000 officially registered magicians. Over 16 million people use their services.
- Mussolini renamed Mickey Mouse as Topolino, Donald duck as Paperino, Goofy as Pippo. This was done to eliminate foreign words from Italian.
- Italy surrounds two important independent states of the world.
- The Vatican City is just 108.7 acres and has its own phone company, radio, TV stations, money and stamps. Its army is the historic Swiss Guard!
- The Republic of San Marino is one of the world's oldest countries and has the world's oldest continuous constitution. It has a small population of 30,000 people. The citizens are called Sammarinese.
- Gucci, Prada, Versace, Doice & Gabbana, Giorgio Armani, Ermenegildo Zegna, Gianfranco Ferré, Salvatore Ferragamo, Roberto Cavalli, Fendi, Valentine, Trussardi, Benetton are some of the fashion designers of Italy, making the list of very famous fashion designers.

NEW FEATURE PROPOSED FOR ST. ANN FEAST

It may be a little early talk about the St Ann Feast, but we'll put it forward anyway. Our esteemed member Vincent Scicchitano Jr. will be setting up a booth to display our Italian heritage. To showcase your proud Italian heritage, gather your family photos, written history, documents, travel and immigration papers, family heirlooms, family trees and any and all relative materials that you would like the world to see. Items will be put on display for the duration of our Feast and will of course be returned afterwards. It is anticipated that this will be a very popular feature, and remember that the more participation there is the better it will be. Guests will be able to vote for the best display and a prize (to be determined) will be awarded. For information or questions contact Vinny at 203-515-0365.

NEW MEMBERS

John McDonald sponsored by Donald Uva sworn in at the men's October 2, 2019 meeting.

John Tortorello sponsored by Tony Pullia sworn in at the men's November 6, 2019 meeting.

Tom Gaal sponsored by Louis DiBerardino 2nd reading was at the November 6th meeting.

Raffaele Ruffo sponsored by Andrew Troetti 2nd reading was at the December 4th, meeting

Luis Solis sponsored by Al Latte 2nd reading was at the December 4th meeting.

The latter three will be sworn in at a board meeting.

MEN AND WOMEN DUES

The current debit card can be used until February 28, 2020. March 1, 2020 all cards will have a zero balance. On March 15, 2020 for all members that paid their dues, money will be added to their current card. The new balance will not expire until February 28, 2021. Ken Romano, Financial Secretary

THE HISTORY OF OUR FIRST STATUE OF ST. ANNE

In the early 1950's, the St. Ann Club proposed a statue of St. Anne be created for the club facility. At the time, the club had a small membership and was made up mostly of men who emigrated from Italy and primarily the town of Jelsi. Andrew Caruso and Joseph Santella were responsible for contacting friends and town officials in Jelsi and commissioned that a statue be created. In 1953, the statue of the saint was completed and under the watchful guidance of Mr. Caruso was shipped overseas to the United States and ultimately to club grounds on Ely Avenue in South Norwalk, CT.

Prior to its arrival, club members decided to build a structure outdoors for the saint. It was part club property and also a small adjacent property owned by founding member, Michael Passarelli. It was built with impressive stone and marble and also decorative lighting so the saint could be illuminated at any time. This would be where our saint was to be permanently displayed. While many members assisted, the construction of the monument was spearheaded by Andrew Caruso, John DiPietro, Joseph Santella and Nick Cianciullo.

When the statue of St. Anne arrived, club officials planned to baptize it at a celebratory mass to be held on club grounds. Discussion was had to determine who the godmother and godfather of the saint would be and it was decided that a lottery would be held to choose each. The godfather was Frank Mastrolillo and the godmother chosen was Rosina Marinozzi. It was a joyous occasion and some teasing that went along with the selections. Many Jelsese members believed persons originating from the home town of Jelsi would be picked as godparents yet Rosina Marinozzi was not Jelsese. She was from the small town of Castelnuovo, a province of Foggia in the region of Apuglia. It's believed it was a message from our beloved saint that we are all one people.

Over the years, the statue of St. Anne has been the symbol of our club representing faith, belief and our cultural heritage. It has gone through refurbishing and has seen our membership grow and thrive as a community. Many continue to pray for her blessing. We thank you St. Anne for watching over us.

A rare photo taken in 1953 shows Rosina Marinozzi standing at the monument as the priest conducted the celebratory mass. This photo will be displayed shortly on the wall by our saint as well as a photo of the saint with John DiPietro and Andrew Caruso. We will also display the story behind our saint. ~ Respectfully submitted by Antonietta Fratino.

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 April 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.