



ORDER
Sons and
Daughters
of Italy
IN AMERICA



MEETING
OCTOBER 5, 2025

Happy Birthday

Vickie Aprile-10
Jo Drummond-23
Bernie Marrin-9
Betty Rowe-17

Tricia Coursey-15
David Gragnani-5
Pete Poli-9
Ann Sayles-10

Happy Anniversary

Bob & Toni Giovenco-16
Chris & Dena Legnaioli-20

Jay & Jennifer Gragnani-21
Betty & Joe McGowan-28

Welcome New Member

Pete Booker

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Verdi Brothers and Sisters,

I hope to see a full house at the meeting. After all, it is **Italian Heritage Month**. A pasta meal is planned. I like to believe that our organization is not only about sharing a meal with a few friends or family or who we may or may not like (really?) in our group, but that your heritage is important to YOU!!

Although it has not gone without continual searching, we have been unsuccessful in finding a venue to hold another Italian Festival. It is truly unrealistic to think we can do this alone. We need a partner to join us. If anyone has any ideas on other organizations, schools, or churches that would be willing to come on board hosting a festival, check with them and bring info back to membership. This could be an effective way for any other organization to raise money for their needs. Although, a lot of work, I miss the festivals. A thought to keep our heritage recognized in our area is possibly being a vendor at other events around our communities. Let us work on this together!!

Also, it's a good time to reach out to a family member or a friend who loves interacting with Italians and bring them with you to our Oct. meeting. We do allow members who are not of Italian roots.

Do not forget about our fundraisers. Remember at one of the past meetings the group agreed we should continue with them. If you were not at that meeting, it does not mean we do not need your support.

Elections will be coming up in Nov-Dec. All positions are opened for anyone interested. Please be thinking about taking on a Council position and this responsibility.

Remember: **“NO ONE CAN DO EVERYTHING, BUT EVERYONE CAN DO SOMETHING”** Max Lucado

God Bless,
Mary Louise

EVENTS:

Murder Mystery Luncheon

October 18- AT GVL 1:00-3:00 p.m.

An Italian family reunion and discussion of the family will. Who killed Marcello to inherit the finances from the will. There is also a bit of trivia and Italian words, names and phrases for those people who know a bit of Italian.

FUNDRAISERS:

Va Diner Peanut **-(Ends at the Oct. 5 meeting)**

Stew- **(Orders taken up to Oct.20)**

The Origins of Italian Heritage Month

Every October, *Italian Heritage Month* is celebrated across the United States, honoring the vibrant culture, history, and countless contributions of *Italians* and *Italian Americans*. From beloved culinary traditions to world-renowned art, architecture, and innovation, Italian heritage has deeply shaped not only Italy itself but also the cultural landscape of America.

But how did this month-long celebration come to be? Let us take a closer look at its origins and why it remains an important tradition today.

The Historical Roots of Italian Immigration

The story of *Italian Heritage Month* begins with immigration. Between 1880 and 1924, over 4 million Italians arrived in the United States, seeking better economic opportunities and escaping poverty, political unrest, and natural disasters in Italy.

Most Italian immigrants settled in cities like New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Chicago, forming close-knit neighborhoods often known as *Little Italies*. While these communities thrived culturally, Italian immigrants faced widespread discrimination and prejudice during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Despite these challenges, Italian Americans became an integral part of the nation's growth—contributing to infrastructure projects, founding businesses, and enriching American cuisine, music, and art.

Why It Matters Today

Italian Heritage Month serves multiple purposes:

- **Celebration of Culture:** It highlights Italy's rich contributions to art, music, food, and science.
- **Acknowledgment of Struggles:** It honors the hardships and discrimination faced by early Italian immigrants.
- **Education:** It provides an opportunity for people to learn about Italian history and influence beyond stereotypes.
- **Community Building:** It strengthens connections within Italian-American communities and invites others to share in the celebration.

At a time when understanding and appreciating cultural diversity is more important than ever, *Italian Heritage Month* continues to be a bridge between the past and the present.

How to Celebrate

Whether or not you have Italian roots, there are many ways to take part:

- Attend a local Italian festival or street fair.
- Explore Italian art, literature, and films.
- Cook a traditional Italian recipe passed down through generations.
- Support Italian-American-owned businesses.

Visit a *Little Italy* neighborhood and experience authentic culture firsthand.

Celebrating *Italian Heritage Month* is about honoring tradition while fostering cultural exchange and understanding.

A Legacy That Lives On

Italian Heritage Month is more than just a series of events—it's a testament to the resilience, creativity, and enduring contributions of Italians and Italian Americans.

As we celebrate each October, we are reminded of the importance of embracing and preserving heritage, ensuring that future generations continue to be inspired by the rich history of Italy and its global influence. **Article taken from: TheLazyItalian.com**



GOOD LUCK!

DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the
vocabulary words
in the grid. Look
for them in all
directions including
backwards and
diagonally.

Christopher Columbus

Word Search

AMERICA
ATLANTIC
BAHAMAS
CAPTAIN
CARIBBEAN
COLUMBUS
COMPASS
CREW
DISCOVERY
EUROPE
FERDINAND
GOLD

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



ISABELLA	PORTUGAL
LAND	SAIL
LATITUDE	SANTA CLARA
LONGITUDE	SANTA MARIA
MAP	SHIP
NAVIGATE	SPAIN
NEW WORLD	TRADE ROUTE
OCEAN	VOYAGE
PINTA	WEST INDIES

Submitted by: Arthur Smith