



## NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY febbraio 2018

### JANUARY MEETING

Riunione gennaio

Our first meeting of 2018 was held on the last day of January, at Pine Ridge Country Club. Our speaker was Mr. Dan Ruminski, a Chagrin Falls resident who defines himself as a "Cleveland Storyteller." Dan entertained us for forty-five minutes with stories about Cleveland, as it used to be, particularly the part of Euclid Avenue known as "Millionaires Row" at the lives and activities of its residents.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### FEBRUARY febbraio

##### 4 February, Sunday

AIHC NFL Championship Game Party at LaMalfa. This event has been cancelled but the "Big Board" contest will still be conducted. The numbers will be posted no later than 3 February.

##### 21 February, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting at The Mentor Firefighter's Museum @ 7:00p.

##### 28 February, Wednesday:

AIH Membership Meeting at Pine Ridge Country Club @ 6:30p. Our speaker will be Mr. John P. Vourlis. John, a Wickliffe resident and instructor at the CSU film instructor and USC film school alumni is the Director and Producer of "Breaking Balls", a documentary on competitive bocce.

#### MARCH marzo

##### 21 March, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting at The Mentor Firefighter's Museum @ 7:00p.

##### 28 March, Wednesday:

AIH Membership Meeting at Pine Ridge Country Club @ 6:30p. Our speaker will be A.J. Petitti, the President of Petitti Garden Centers, who will talk to us about our yards and the upcoming spring.

#### APRIL aprile

##### 11 April, Wednesday

AIHC Executive Committee Meeting at LaMalfa @ 5:30p.

##### 18 April, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting at The Mentor Firefighter's Museum @ 7:00p.

##### 21 April, Saturday:

AIHC Italian Night at LaMalfa @ 6:30p. The event is coordinated by Bill Petrello and Mike LaMalfa. This is the second of our Charities

three annual fund raisers. Flyer will be forthcoming.

*Reservations are required*

##### 25 April, Wednesday:

AIH Membership Meeting at Pine Ridge Country Club @ 6:30p. Our speaker will be Mr. Bob DiBiasio, the Senior Vice President for Public Relations of the Cleveland Indians.

#### MAY maggio

##### 19 May, Saturday

AIH Seneca Allegany Casino Trip. Don Rapposelli is the Chair of that event. More details will follow.

*Reservations are required*

##### 23 May, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting at The Mentor Firefighter's Museum @ 7:00p.

##### 30 May, Wednesday:

AIH Membership Meeting at Pine Ridge Country Club @ 6:30p. Our speaker will be Mr. Tim Ausperk, the Club Pro and Manager at Black Brook Golf Club in Mentor. Tim will be getting us ready for spring golf after a long, cold northeast Ohio winter.

### MINNESOTA VIKINGS HELMET

The club is still raffling off the Minnesota Vikings' helmet that was autographed by former Vikings quarterback Fran Tarkenton. Tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00 and are available from Trustee Tony Munaretto.

### VOLUNTEERS FOR ITALIAN NIGHT

We all know that our Italian Night fund raiser brings in the lion's share of funding for our Charities and without that funding, we won't be able to do our scholarships or other charitable work. But for that event to be a success, two things have to happen.

First, we need really good attendance, i.e. 800 plus, so please be sure to attend and get your friends to attend with you. See Treasurer Bill Petrello for tickets. You can reach Bill Petrello at 440-255-7920 or [BPetrello44@yahoo.com](mailto:BPetrello44@yahoo.com).

Second, we need volunteers to help with all the activities that make the evening such fun for our guests and net us our funding. It will only take up an hour or so of your time, it's a great way for new members to get involved, but most importantly, it's the only way we can pull off the

event. So please contact Ron Wassum and get your name on his volunteer list. You can reach Ron Wassum at 440-487-3144 or [Ron@LondonRidge.com](mailto:Ron@LondonRidge.com).

### GUESTS AT MEETINGS

Members are encouraged to bring perspective new members to a meeting as a guest so they can meet us. The meal cost for such perspective members will be picked up by the club. For this to happen however, you must contact the Membership Chair, Gus Paolucci, regarding your guest no later than the Sunday before the meeting. If Chairman Paolucci is not notified accordingly, and your guest's name is not recorded with our Sergeant at Arms, George Judy, your guest will have to pay full price for his meal.

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The FY18 Membership Drive already has 9 participants:

1. Don Rapposelli and Richard O'Keefe sponsored Tony Cicerella.
2. Ron Wassum and Judge Mike Cicconetti sponsored Anthony Iliano Sr.
3. Anthony Iliano Sr. and Ron Wassum sponsored Anthony Iliano Jr.
4. Matt Gambatese and Sal Corbo sponsored Nick Tibaldi
5. Judge Mike Cicconetti and Anthony Iliano Sr. sponsored Angelo Cicconetti
6. John Perotti and Gary Licate sponsored Gary Pascarella
7. Judge Mike Cicconetti and Ron Wassum sponsored Michael V. Cicconetti

### NOMINATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairman Paolucci reported the following:

The biennial election of AIH Officers and Trustees shall occur at the June 2018 Membership Meeting.

The Nomination Committee has been organized and consists of Bob Andreano and Gary Licate. The committee will be looking for additional nominations.



The initial slate of Officers and Trustees will be presented to the membership at the February Meeting, and nominations from the floor will be entertained. This process will be repeated at the March, April, and May Membership Meetings. At the May Membership Meeting the Slate will be closed. Elections will be held at the June Membership Meeting.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Compleanni di febbraio

John Martello ..... 1
Louis Aliberti ..... 4
Bob Travato ..... 5
Dr. Ron Taddeo ..... 10
John Perrotti ..... 15
Jim Federico Jr. .... 16
Carmen Cesa..... 24

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

i nostri pensieri e preghiere

Carmen Rosso reported that member Dom Palermo has undergone some bladder surgery. Reports are that he is doing well in his recovery. Please keep Dom in your thoughts and prayers.

THE REGIONS OF ITALY

The regions of Italy are the first-level administrative divisions of Italy. There are 20 regions, of which five are constitutionally given a broader amount of autonomy granted by special statutes.

Each region, except for the Aosta Valley, is divided into provinces.

History

As the administrative districts of the central state during the Kingdom of Italy, regions were granted a measure of political autonomy by the 1948 Constitution of the Italian Republic. The original draft list comprised the Salento region (which was eventually included in the Apulia). Friuli and Venezia Giulia were separate regions, and Basilicata was named Lucania. Abruzzo and Molise were identified as separate regions in the first draft. They were later merged into Abruzzo e Molise in the final constitution of 1948. They were later separated in 1963.

Implementation of regional autonomy was postponed until the first Regional Elections of

1970. The ruling Christian Democracy party did not want the opposition Italian Communist Party to gain power in the regions, where it was historically rooted (the red belt of Emilia-Romagna, Tuscany, Umbria and the Marches).

Regions acquired a significant level of autonomy following a constitutional reform in 2001 (brought about by a centre-left government and confirmed by popular referendum), which granted them residual policy competence. A further federalist reform was proposed by the regionalist party Lega Nord and in 2005, the centre-right government led by Silvio Berlusconi proposed a new reform that would have greatly increased the power of regions.

In June 2006 the proposals, which had been particularly associated with Lega Nord, and seen by some as leading the way to a federal state, were rejected in a referendum by 61.7% to 38.3%. The results varied considerably among the regions, ranging from 55.3% in favor in Veneto to 82% against in Calabria.

Status

Every region has a statute that serves as a regional constitution, determining the form of government and the fundamental principles of the organization and the functioning of the region, as prescribed by the Constitution of Italy (Article 123). Although all the regions except Toscana define themselves in various ways as an "autonomous Region" in the first article of their Statutes, fifteen regions actually have ordinary statutes and only five have special statutes, granting them extended autonomy.

Regions with ordinary statute

These regions, whose statutes are approved by their regional councils, were created in 1970, even though the Italian Constitution dates back to 1948. Since the constitutional reform of 2001 they have had residual legislative powers. The regions have exclusive legislative power with respect to any matters not expressly reserved to state law (Article 117). Yet their financial autonomy is quite modest: they just keep 20% of all levied taxes, mostly used to finance the region-based healthcare system.

Autonomous regions with special statute



Autonomous regions Article 116 of the Italian Constitution grants to five regions (namely Sardinia, Sicily, Trentino-Alto Adige/Südtirol, Aosta Valley and Friuli-Venezia Giulia) home rule, acknowledging their powers in relation to legislation, administration and finance. These regions became autonomous in order to take into account cultural differences and protect linguistic minorities. Moreover, the government wanted to prevent their secession from Italy after the Second World War.

Trentino-Alto Adige/Südtirol constitutes a special case. The region is nearly powerless, and the powers granted by the region's statute are mostly exercised by the two autonomous provinces within the region, Trentino and South Tyrol. In this case, the regional institution plays a coordinating role.

Institutions

Each region has an elected parliament, called Consiglio Regionale (regional council), or Assemblea Regionale (regional assembly) in Sicily, and a government called Giunta Regionale (regional committee), headed by a governor called Presidente della Giunta Regionale (president of the regional committee) or Presidente della Regione (regional president). The latter is directly elected by the citizens of each region, with the exceptions of Aosta Valley and Trentino-Alto Adige/Südtirol, where he is chosen by the regional council. Under the 1995 electoral law, the winning coalition receives an absolute majority of seats on the council. The president chairs the giunta, and nominates or dismisses its members, called assessori. If the directly elected president resigns, new elections are called immediately.



In Trentino-Alto Adige/Südtirol, the regional council is made up of the joint session of the two provincial councils of Trentino and of South Tyrol, and the regional governor is one of the two provincial commissioners.

**Representation in the Senate**



The map above indicates the number of senators currently assigned to each Region. Article 57 of the Constitution of Italy establishes that the Senate of the Italian Republic is elected on a regional basis (excluding 6 senators elected by Italians residing abroad and a small number of senator for life) by Italian citizens aged 25 or older.

The 309 senators are assigned to each region proportionally according to their population. However, Article 57 of the Constitution provides that no region can have fewer than seven senators representing it, except for the Aosta Valley (which has one) and Molise (which has two).

**Abruzzo**

Ordinary statute region  
They have 7 Senators  
Was a part of "Abruzzo-Molise" until 1970.

**Aosta Valley**

Autonomous region with special statute  
They have 1 Senator  
Italian: Valle d'Aosta

**Apulia**

Ordinary statute region  
They have 20 Senators  
Italian: Puglia

**Basilicata**

Ordinary statute region  
They have 7 Senators  
Also known as Lucania

**Calabria**

Ordinary statute region  
They have 10 Senators

**Campania**

Ordinary statute region  
They have 29 Senators

**Emilia-Romagna**

Ordinary statute region  
They have 22 Senators  
Was two separate regions once

**Friuli-Venezia Giulia**

Autonomous region with special statute  
They have 7 Senators

**Lazio**

Ordinary statute region  
They have 28 Senators

**Liguria**

Ordinary statute region  
They have 8 Senators

**Lombardy**

Ordinary statute region  
They have 49 Senators  
Italian: Lombardia

**Marche**

Ordinary statute region  
They have 8 Senators

**Molise**

Ordinary statute region  
They have 2 Senators  
Was a part of "Abruzzo-Molise" until 1970

**Piedmont**

Ordinary statute region  
They have 22 Senators  
Italian: Piemonte

**Sardinia**

Autonomous region with special statute  
They have 8 Senators  
Italian: Sardegna

**Sicily**

Autonomous region with special statute  
They have 25 Senators  
Italian: Sicilia

**Trentino-South Tyrol**

Autonomous region with special statute  
They have 7 Senators  
Italian: Trentino-Alto Adige

**Tuscany**

Ordinary statute region  
They have 18 Senators  
Italian: Toscana

**Umbria**

Ordinary statute region  
They have 7 Senators

**Veneto**

Ordinary statute region  
They have 24 Senators

**Overseas Constituencies**

They have 6 Senators

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The purpose of this Association is to promote the moral, social and civic advancement of its membership, and to perpetuate the customs and cultural aspects of Italian Heritage.

*Article II, Section 1 of the AIH Bylaws*

**OFFICERS & TRUSTEES**

*1 July 2016 – 30 June 2018*

- President ..... Dave Vegh
- Vice President ..... Gus Paolucci
- Secretary ..... Glenn Pizzuti
- Treasurer ..... Bill Petrello
- Trustee ..... Mike Cicconetti
- Trustee ..... Rio DeGennaro Jr.
- Trustee ..... Jim Federico Sr.
- Trustee ..... Mike LaMalfa
- Trustee ..... Donnie Rapposelli
- Trustee ..... Tony Munaretto
- Trustee ..... John Perrotti
- Trustee ..... Ron Wassum

**ATTACHMENTS**

- No attachments this month.