



APRIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE E-MEETING

FYI, our 22 April Executive Committee Meeting was held online. There is a bit of a learning curve but we think it will work until we get the "all clear" and we can all get together face to face.

APRIL MEETING riunione APRILE

Our April Membership Meeting was supposed to be at Pine Ridge Country Club @ 6:30p, and the speaker was supposed to be our good friend Bob DiBiasio from the Cleveland Indians. Bob always kicked off our spring with stories about the Indians but not this year. As with our March Meeting, we had to cancel our April Meeting as well, while we maintain our social distancing. Once again, let's all pray that this social distancing only lasts a couple more weeks and we can return to something a little more normal.

UPCOMING EVENTS Prossimi eventi

MAY maggio

20 May, Wednesday

AIH Executive Committee Meeting, to be conducted via video conferencing @ 7:00p.

27 May, Wednesday:

AIH Membership Meeting at Pine Ridge Country Club has been cancelled, once again because of the COVID-19 protocols. If anything changes in the next 4 weeks, we'll contact the membership via email.

MAY BIRTHDAYS Compleanni di maggio

- Nicholas Iliano 3
Angelo LaSpina 3
Ken Mancuso 3
Tony Vitantonio 3
Ron Terriaco 5
Dan Farina 6
Norman Ingrassia 6
Mike Camino 7
Marty Norsic 8
Bill Petrello 21
Dr. Alfonso Rossi 24
Tony Munaretto 31

When you see these members this month, if we're not still quarantined, be sure to wish them buon compleanno.

HEALTH AND WELFARE salute e benessere

Secretary Pizzuti reached out to all members of the Club and asked if anyone had been impacted health wise by COVID-19. So far all he got were negative responses. Keep safe.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

The biennial election of AIH Officers and Trustees will occur at the June 2020 Membership Meeting. The ad hoc Nominations Committee has been organized and consists of Chairman Ron Wassum along with Bob Andreano and Gary Licate.

The committee is compiling their initial slate of candidates at this time. If you would like to be a candidate or know of a member who you would like to nominate, contact one of the committee members listed herein. Ron Wassum: Ronald@LondonRidge.com Bob Andreano: BobAndreano@hotmail.com Gary Licate: GLicate64@roadrunner.com.

The final slate of candidates will be presented at the May Membership Meeting or online if we can't meet in May, and the Slate will be closed. The elections will be held at the June Membership Meeting at Pine Ridge, or online if we still can't meet in June.

CINCO DE MAYO

Cinco de Mayo (pronounced ['sinʝo ðe 'maio] in Latin America, Spanish for "Fifth of May") is an annual celebration held on May 5. The date is observed to commemorate the Mexican Army's victory over the French Empire at the Battle of Puebla, on May 5, 1862, under the leadership of General Ignacio Zaragoza. The victory of the smaller Mexican force against a larger French force was a boost to morale for the Mexicans. Zaragoza died months after the battle due to illness. A year after the battle, a larger French force defeated the Mexican army at the Second Battle of Puebla, and Mexico City soon fell to the invaders.

In the United States, Cinco de Mayo has taken on a significance beyond that in Mexico. More popularly celebrated in the United States than Mexico, the date has become associated with the celebration of Mexican-American culture. These celebrations began in California, where

they have been observed annually since 1863. The day gained nationwide popularity in the 1980s thanks especially to advertising campaigns by beer and wine companies. Today, Cinco de Mayo generates beer sales on par with the Super Bowl.

In Mexico, the commemoration of the battle continues to be mostly ceremonial, such as through military parades or battle reenactments. The city of Puebla marks the event with an arts festival, a festival of local cuisine, and re-enactments of the battle.

Cinco de Mayo is sometimes mistaken for Mexico's Independence Day—the most important national holiday in Mexico—which is celebrated on September 16, commemorating the Cry of Dolores, which initiated the war of Mexican independence from Spain.

Cinco de Mayo has its roots in the Second French intervention in Mexico, which took place in the aftermath of the 1846–48 Mexican–American War and the 1858–61 Reform War. The Reform War was a civil war that pitted Liberals (who believed in separation of church and state, and freedom of religion) against Conservatives (who favored a tight bond between the Catholic Church and the Mexican state). These wars nearly bankrupted the Mexican Treasury. On July 17, 1861, Mexican President Benito Juárez issued a moratorium in which all foreign debt payments would be suspended for two years. In response, Britain, France, and Spain sent naval forces to Veracruz to demand reimbursement. Britain and Spain negotiated with Mexico and withdrew, but France, at the time ruled by Napoleon III, decided to use the opportunity to establish an empire in Mexico that would favor French interests, the Second Mexican Empire. The empire was part of an envisioned "Latin America" (term used to imply cultural kinship of the region with France) that would rebuild French influence in the American continent and exclude Anglophone American territories.

Late in 1861, a well-armed French fleet attacked Veracruz, landing a large French force and driving President Juárez and his government into retreat. Moving on from Veracruz towards Mexico City, the French army encountered heavy resistance from the Mexicans close to Puebla, at the Mexican forts of Loreto and Guadalupe. The French army of 8,000 attacked the poorly equipped Mexican



army of 4,000. On May 5, 1862, the Mexicans decisively defeated the French army. The victory represented a significant morale boost to the Mexican army and the Mexican people at large and helped establish a sense of national unity and patriotism.

The Mexican victory, however, was short-lived. A year later, with 30,000 troops, the French were able to defeat the Mexican army, capture Mexico City, and install Emperor Maximilian I as ruler of Mexico. The French victory was itself short-lived, lasting only three years, from 1864 to 1867. By 1865, with the American Civil War now over, the U.S. began to provide more political and military assistance to Mexico to expel the French. Upon the conclusion of the American Civil War, Napoleon III, facing a persistent Mexican guerilla resistance, the threat of war with Prussia, and the prospect of a serious scrap with the United States, retreated from Mexico starting in 1866. The Mexicans recaptured Mexico City and Maximilian I was apprehended and executed, along with his Mexican generals Miguel Miramón and Tomás Mejía Camacho in Cerro de las Campanas, Querétaro. On June 5, 1867, Benito Juárez finally entered Mexico City where he installed a new government and reorganized his administration.

The Battle of Puebla was significant, both nationally and internationally, for several reasons. First, although considerably outnumbered, the Mexicans defeated a better-equipped French army that had not been defeated for almost 50 years. Second, since the Battle of Puebla, some have argued that no country in the Americas has subsequently been invaded by any other European military force. Historian Justo Sierra has written in his *Political Evolution of the Mexican People* that, had Mexico not defeated the French in Puebla on May 5, 1862, France would have gone to the aid of the Confederate States of America in the American Civil War and the United States' destiny would have been different.

The above information was taken from the 2020 Wikipedia

MOTHER'S DAY

The modern holiday of Mother's Day was first celebrated in 1908, when Anna Jarvis held a memorial for her mother at St Andrew's Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia. St Andrew's Methodist Church now holds the

International Mother's Day Shrine. Her campaign to make Mother's Day a recognized holiday in the United States began in 1905, the year her mother, Ann Reeves Jarvis, died. Ann Jarvis had been a peace activist who cared for wounded soldiers on both sides of the American Civil War, and created Mother's Day Work Clubs to address public health issues. Anna Jarvis wanted to honor her mother by continuing the work she started and to set aside a day to honor all mothers because she believed a mother is "the person who has done more for you than anyone in the world".

In 1908, the U.S. Congress rejected a proposal to make Mother's Day an official holiday, joking that they would also have to proclaim a "Mother-in-law's Day". However, owing to the efforts of Anna Jarvis, by 1911 all U.S. states observed the holiday, with some of them officially recognizing Mother's Day as a local holiday, the first being West Virginia, Jarvis' home state, in 1910. In 1914, Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating Mother's Day, held on the second Sunday in May, as a national holiday to honor mothers.

Although Jarvis was successful in founding Mother's Day, she became resentful of the commercialization of the holiday. By the early 1920s, Hallmark Cards and other companies had started selling Mother's Day cards. Jarvis believed that the companies had misinterpreted and exploited the idea of Mother's Day, and that the emphasis of the holiday was on sentiment, not profit. As a result, she organized boycotts of Mother's Day, and threatened to issue lawsuits against the companies involved. Jarvis argued that people should appreciate and honor their mothers through handwritten letters expressing their love and gratitude, instead of buying gifts and pre-made cards. Jarvis protested at a candy makers' convention in Philadelphia in 1923, and at a meeting of American War Mothers in 1925. By this time, carnations had become associated with Mother's Day, and the selling of carnations by the American War Mothers to raise money angered Jarvis, who was arrested for disturbing the peace.

In 1912 Anna Jarvis trademarked the phrase "Second Sunday in May, Mother's Day, Anna Jarvis, Founder", and created the Mother's Day International Association. She specifically noted that "Mother's" should "be a singular

possessive, for each family to honor its own mother, not a plural possessive commemorating all mothers in the world." This is also the spelling used by U.S. President Woodrow Wilson in his 1914 presidential proclamation, by the U.S. Congress in relevant bills, and by various U.S. presidents in their proclamations concerning Mother's Day.

While the United States holiday was adopted by some other countries, existing celebrations, held on different dates honoring motherhood, have become described as "Mother's Day", such as Mothering Sunday in the United Kingdom or, in Greece, the Eastern Orthodox celebration of the presentation of Jesus Christ to the temple (2 February of Julian Calendar). Both the secular and religious Mother Day are present in Greece. Mothering Sunday is often referred to as "Mother's Day" even though it is an unrelated celebration.

Mother's Day in Italy was celebrated for the first time on 24 December 1933 as the "Day of the mother and the child" (*Giornata della madre e del fanciullo*). It was instituted by the Opera nazionale maternità e infanzia in order to publicly reward the most prolific Italian women every year.

After World War II, Mother's Day was first celebrated on 12 May 1957 in Assisi, at the initiative of Reverend Otello Migliosi, the parish priest of the Tordibetto church. This celebration was so popular that in the following year Mother's Day was adopted throughout Italy. On 18 December 1958, a proposal was presented to the Italian Senate to make the holiday official.

The above information was taken from the 2020 Wikipedia

INDIANAPOLIS 500

The Indianapolis 500-Mile Race is the world's oldest currently operational automobile race. Better known as the Indy 500 or the Indianapolis 500, it is held annually at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway (IMS) in Speedway, Indiana, United States, an enclave suburb of Indianapolis, Indiana. The event is traditionally held over Memorial Day weekend in late May. It is contested as part of the IndyCar Series, the top level of American Championship Car racing, an open-wheel open-cockpit formula colloquially known as "Indy Car Racing". The name of the race is



often shortened to Indy 500, and the track itself is nicknamed the "Brickyard", as the racing surfacing was paved in brick in the fall of 1909, with a yard of brick remaining exposed at the start/finish line.

The event billed as *The Greatest Spectacle in Racing* is considered part of the Triple Crown of Motorsport, which comprises three of the most prestigious motorsports events in the world, also including the Monaco Grand Prix and the 24 Hours of Le Mans. In two different periods the race was part of FIA World Championships; between 1925-1928 the World Manufacturers' Championship and between 1950-1960 the Formula One World Championship. The official attendance is not disclosed by Speedway management, but the permanent seating capacity is upwards of 250,000, and infield patrons raise the race-day attendance to approximately 300,000. It shares its date with NASCAR's 600-mile event at Charlotte, with drivers having completed both events in one day before in a so-called Double Duty.

The inaugural race was held in 1911 and was won by Ray Harroun. The event celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2011, and the 100th running was held in 2016. The event was put on hiatus twice, from 1917 to 1918 due to World War I and from 1942 to 1945 due to World War II. Simon Pagenaud is the current champion. The most successful drivers are A. J. Foyt, Al Unser Sr., and Rick Mears, each of whom have won the race four times. The active driver with the most victories is Hélio Castroneves, with three. Rick Mears holds the record for most career pole positions with six. The most successful car owner is Roger Penske, owner of Team Penske, which has 18 total wins and 18 poles. Penske also has five wins at the IndyCar Grand Prix, held on the combined road course.

The event is steeped in tradition, in pre-race ceremonies, post-race celebrations, and race procedure. The most noteworthy and most popular traditions are the 33-car field lining up three-wide for the start, the annual singing of "Back Home Again in Indiana," and the victory lane bottle of milk. Also unique is that qualifying requires the driver to complete four, rather than one, timed laps and qualifying itself has a separate weekend.

Of course this year, in accordance with the CDC, the race committee is looking at postponing the race to summer or fall.

The above information was taken from the 2020 Wikipedia

MEMORIAL DAY

There are three days each year that we recognize the service and sacrifices of members of our Armed Forces Day. These days are not interchangeable, and they are not days set aside to recognize anyone who has passed away. They are intended to be for members our Armed Forces only.

Armed Forces Day this year falls on Saturday, 16 May. Armed Forces Day honors all members of the military currently serving in any branch of our Armed Forces.

Memorial Day this year falls on May 25th. Memorial Day honors all members of the military who died while serving in any branch of our Armed Forces. The holiday, which is currently observed every year on the last Monday of May, was previously observed on May 30 from 1868 to 1970.

Veterans Day this year falls on Wednesday, 11 November. The WW-I Armistice with Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918. Veterans Day honors all military veterans who have served in any branch of our Armed Forces.

SPECIAL DAYS IN MAY

- May 4: Star Wars Day
- May 5: Cinco de Mayo
- May 5: National Hoagie Day
- May 8: National Have a Coke Day
- May 10: Mother's Day
- May 10: National Shrimp Day
- May 11: National Twilight Zone Day
- May 11: National Eat What You Want Day
- May 13: National Frog Jumping Day
- May 13: National Apple Pie Day
- May 14: National Dance Like a Chicken Day
- May 16: Armed Forces Day
- May 17: National Walnut Day
- May 17: National Pack Rat Day
- May 19: National Devil's Food Cake Day
- May 21: National Talk Like Yoda Day
- May 24: Indy 500

- May 25: Memorial Day
- May 25: National Wine Day
- May 27: National Sunscreen Day
- May 28: National Brisket Day
- May 28: National Hamburger Day
- May 31: National Macaroon Day

- In addition, May is:
- National BBQ Month
 - National Egg Month
 - National Hamburger Month
 - National Salad Month
 - National Salsa Month
 - National Strawberry Month

MISSION STATEMENT

dichiarazione di missione

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

AMERICANS of ITALIAN HERITAGE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1 July 2018 – 30 June 2020

- President Gus Paolucci
- Vice President Ronald Wassum
- Secretary Glenn Pizzuti
- Treasurer William Petrello
- Trustee Mario Fioritto
- Trustee Rio DeGennaro Jr.
- Trustee James Federico Sr.
- Trustee* Bob Andreanno
- Trustee* Anthony Illano Sr.
- Trustee Donald Rapposelli
- Trustee John Perrotti
- Trustee-Immediate Past Pres..... David Vegh

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. None