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IAHCSCD November 2025 Newsletter (IAHCSCD bollettino mensile di novembre 2025)

Message from the President (Messaggio da la Presidente)

Cari Amici,

A wonderful time had by all at our Annual Fund Raiser event this October. Music by Vincent Varrassi and his 5th Ave Band kept people in a happy mood but so did the food and drinks.

Thank you to Mulligan's Pointe Country Club for hosting on an off-night and a special thank you to ELVIRA CARUSO for her wonderful and delicious cake she made for our event. Mille Grazie Elvira!

If you all have a chance come on out on November 11th and join us at Bethany Blues in Lewes from 4pm to 9pm where a dine to donate will be held. Dine in or take out and our club receives 15% of your check. On November 17th Game Night and Pizza will be at the Trails of Beaver Creek Clubhouse from 5pm. We will be collecting for the **Toys for Tots** drive and voting on Board members, as well as playing RLC so bring your lucky dollars. And don't forget our Christmas Party on December 11th at the Hyatt Palace Hotel in Dewey Beach.

All this information can be found on our website and in this newsletter. Registration is now up for BOTH EVENTS. Any questions contact us at our email www.Italiamia@iahcsd.com

Grazie Tanto and wishing everyone a very HAPPY THANKSGIVING.

MARIA, PRESIDENT

“TOGETHER LET US DO GOOD”

IAHCSCD FOUNDATION Updates

The Italian-American Heritage Foundation held its **annual fundraiser** on October 13th at the Mulligans Point Country Club. Thanks to our generous donors, the fundraiser was a success. All the contributions from the participating donors and members of the club will help the Foundation continue to support our local **charities** throughout 2026.

Donations were gift certificates from \$50 to \$100 from the following vendors:

Touch of Italy, 1776 Restaurant, Russo's by the Bay, Italian Kitchen, Wharton's Flowers, Waze Car Wash, Besche Furniture, Cape-May Ferry, Shorebirds Baseball, Flowers on Savannah, Lotus Nail Salon, Kids Ketch, Brimming Horn Meadery, Plantation Lakes Country Club, Bethany Diner, Agave, and Nectar Café.

Grand prizes were donated by Grandview Travel and Tours (Yankee/Phillies baseball tickets and transportation to Philadelphia) and the Village Salon and Spa (a day at the spa). Each prize was worth over \$350.

The grand prize winners were Joanne Bosco (Yankee/Phillies game) and Pat Stamidis (a day at the spa).

The Italian-American Heritage Foundation Board of Trustees & the Italian-American Heritage Club Board of Directors wish to express their thankfulness and appreciation to all the donors and our members who attended and participated in the annual fundraiser!

And a special thanks goes out to the wonderful ladies of the social committee. The fundraiser couldn't have happened without their tremendous support.

A few photos of the evening follow



Many fundraiser donations!



Welcome!



Maria announcing winners!



Vincent Varassi & the 5th Avenue Band!



Pat working the 50/50's!



At the grazing table!



Members enjoying the evening!

NOTE TO MEMBERS: If you volunteer or donate at a non-profit in Sussex County, please send information (name, contact, background, how the organization supports Sussex County communities & your involvement) to www.iahcsd.com and the Foundation will consider adding to our growing list of non-profits to support.

Thank you to our members for making all IAHC Foundation's donations possible by your endless generosity!

November Birthdays (compleanni di novembre)

Buon compleanno! 🎉

Lou Pastore November 6
Cindy Baudoin November 12
Ralph Dippolito November 23
John Ditoro November 25
Debbie Distasio November 30

Upcoming Meetings, Dine & Donate & Events

SAVE THE DATE!

November 11, Tuesday ... Dine & Donate, Bethany Blues, 18385 Coastal Hwy, Lewes

- 4pm-9pm
- Dine-in or Carry-out
- 15% of your check will help benefit the Italian-American Heritage Club!
- Come join your fellow Italian members!

November 17, Monday

- Trails of Beaver Creek Clubhouse, 27378 Covered Bridge Trail, Harbeson
- Event starts at 5PM
- \$20 per person
- Pizza nite with cake for dessert
- Toys for Tots drive
- 50/50
- **NEW!** ... IAHC shirts will be on sale. Come & see what we have!
- Right, left, center ... we know how much you like to play! Bring your \$1bills!

- BYOB
- **Election night** for the following Board members ... President (2year term), Vice-President (2year term), 2 Directors at Large (1year term each)

We could use more interested members!
It is really not that hard & lots of fun too!
If you have an interest in serving on the IAHC Board, please email to www.iahcsd.com

December 11, Thursday ... Buon Natale Annual Christmas Party

- Hyatt Place Dewey Beach, 1301 Coastal Hwy, Dewey
- Event 5pm to 9pm
- \$70 per person
- Entertainment & music by Lisa Ingrid Sax & the Posse
- Cash bar
- **Plated dinner** to include a **choice of Grilled Sirloin, Chicken Marsala or Glazed Salmon**, served with Caesar salad, Garlic Asparagus, Scalloped Potatoes, roll/butter, coffee & tea. Upon arrival there will be a complimentary cheese station & signature cocktail.
- **Booking information for Hyatt Place Dewey Beach**
 - 10 guest rooms have been blocked for the Italian American Heritage Club at the Hyatt Place Dewey Beach for our Christmas Event on December 11-12, 2025. This will be a first come, first served basis. Individuals will need to make arrangements through the Hyatt themselves.
 - The group rate is \$99/night for a king room type. After this date, the group rate is not guaranteed at the hotel.
 - If you are interested in extending your evening & enjoying the night on Rehoboth Bay, the booking link for the guest rooms at the Hyatt Place Dewey Beach follows:
<https://www.hyatt.com/events/en-US/group-booking/ILGZD/G-CIAO>

Guests may also call reservations at [1-855-556-1297](tel:1-855-556-1297) and ask for the Italian American Heritage Holiday Event rate. The group code is G-CIAO.

For your conversations (Per le tue conversazioni) **Italian with Maria**

NUMBERS IN ITALIAN

0: zero	13: tredici	30: trenta
1: uno	14: quattordici	40: quaranta
2: due	15: quindici	50: cinquanta
3: tre	16: sedici	60: sessanta
4: quattro	17: diciassette	70: settanta
5: cinque	18: diciotto	80: ottanta
6: sei	19: diciannove	90: novanta
7: sette	20: venti	100: cento
8: otto	21: ventuno	1000: mille
9: nove	22: ventidue	
10: dieci	23: ventitré	
11: undici	24: ventiquattro	
12: dodici	25: venticinque	

Italian History and Culture (Storia e cultura Italiane)

DID YOU KNOW THERE ARE MORE ITALIANS ABROAD THAN ... IN ITALY?

In the heart of every **Italian-American** beats the rhythm of the old country, right? The aroma of simmering tomato sauce, the pleasure of long meals at grandma's, the feeling of community, and of "belonging" to a large, international family with roots on both sides of the Atlantic are like threads woven into the rich fabric of our heritage.

Of course, you know there are large Italian communities not only in the US but everywhere in the world, as we Italians have always been a people of travelers. What may come as a surprise is the fact that there are more people with an Italian heritage around the world than there are Italians in Italy. Italy, a country renowned for its art, culture, and cuisine, is home to approximately 60 million people. However, the global Italian family is much larger. Current estimates suggest that there are at least **80 million people of Italian ancestry** scattered across the globe. From the bustling streets of Buenos Aires to the vibrant neighborhoods of New York, the Italian spirit thrives everywhere!

This global Italian diaspora is the result of **three significant waves of emigration** from Italy.

- The first wave, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, saw millions of Italians leave their homeland in search of better economic opportunities.
- The second wave, post-World War II, was driven by the devastation of the war and the desire for a fresh start.
- The third wave has been primarily affecting young people, and is thought to be occurring now, due to the socioeconomic problems caused by the financial crisis of the early 21st century.

The Italian diaspora has created vibrant Italian-heritage communities worldwide and these communities maintain strong ties with their Italian roots, celebrating traditional festivals, preserving Italian culinary traditions, and passing down the Italian language to younger generations. These millions of people of Italian descent can demonstrate Italian ancestry, no matter how far back.

And here is where things become even more interesting because these millions of people of Italian descent could potentially be eligible for Italian citizenship. Italy has a unique law that grants citizenship to those who can demonstrate Italian ancestry, practically no matter how far back. This law is based on the principle of ***jure sanguinis*** or "right of blood," which considers anyone of Italian descent to be a possible Italian citizen.

To be potentially eligible for Italian citizenship by descent, an individual must have an ancestor who was born in Italy, was alive and not yet a citizen of another country as of March 17, 1861 (the date of the Italian Unification) and did not naturalize in another country before July 1, 1912. If the ancestor never naturalized, the current descendant automatically qualifies.

However, the process is not without its complexities. For example, women could not generally pass on Italian citizenship to children until January 1, 1948. Thus, if a prospective applicant has any female ancestors whose child was born before this date, they must seek recognition in court as opposed to the consular (administrative) path.

Once the descendant has confirmed that the Italian ancestor meets the criteria, they must gather the supporting documentation necessary to demonstrate the same to the satisfaction of the Italian government. This documentation can include old passports, birth certificates, marriage certificates, genealogical evidence, national population registry records, ship manifests, Ellis Island records, church records, and more.

So, the Italian diaspora has created a global Italian family larger than the population of Italy itself. This vast network of Italians and Italian descendants around the world contributes to the beauty and wealth of Italian culture worldwide: a mutual process of enrichment and growth that brings together the past and present to create an even brighter future for all nations involved.

From the Italian Kitchen (Dalla cucina italiana)

IT BAKED MUSSELS GRATINEE IT



Baked Mussels Gratinée Elegant Appetizer

Ingredients:

- 24 fresh mussels, cleaned
- 1 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese, grated
- 1/4 cup fresh parsley, chopped
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 4 tablespoons butter, softened
- Salt and pepper
- Red pepper flakes
- Lemon wedges

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 450°F
2. Place mussels on a baking sheet and bake for 5-7 minutes until they open slightly
3. Remove from oven and carefully pry open, leaving meat attached to shell
4. In a bowl, combine panko, Parmesan, parsley, minced garlic, softened butter, salt, pepper, and red pepper flakes
5. This creates a gratinée topping, a professional technique for rich, crispy texture
6. Top each mussel with a generous spoonful of the mixture
7. Return to oven
8. Bake for 8-10 minutes until topping is golden brown
9. Remove and let cool slightly
10. Serve on a platter with lemon wedges

Please share your Italian recipes with other IAHCSCD members

Send your favorite recipes to Tina @ bdonofrio2010@yahoo.com



A Thanksgiving prayer

*We thank you, Lord, for food and friends,
and for all of the joy this holiday lends.
It's Thanksgiving Day and we can see
the blessings you've provided our family.
Thanks to you, Lord, for another good year;
When you watch over us, there's nothing to fear.*

Happy Thanksgiving to all our members!

QUESTIONS, SUGGESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Please contact Tina Donofrio, Newsletter Editor

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