



GIORNALE PICCOLO

Est. 1973 A.D.

December 2017

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A Note from the President...

I would like to begin my first note to you by thanking you for your confidence in electing me as the new president of the Renaissance Club. I appreciate your trust in me and I will do my best to continue the success and growth that we have experienced in recent years. I would also like to thank everyone who ran for the open officer's positions that were voted on in our last election. It's great to see that people are willing to step up and donate their time and energy to help the club succeed. Special recognition and thanks are due to Mack for his hard work and dedication over the last four years as president of the club. With all of your help, I hope that we will continue on the course that Mack has lead us on.

The holiday season is upon us and our lives get busy and hectic. Remember to try and slow down, remember the reason for the season and enjoy the time you spend with friends and family. May you all have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

The Spaghetti dinners are back after the Thanksgiving hiatus. The all volunteer kitchen staff and servers are doing a great job. Please come by and have some delicious, hot and freshly prepared Italian specialty dinners. This is one of the primary fundraisers for the club. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

The club is always looking for ideas for fun activities that can be held at our club. Whether it's just to gather and socialize or to raise funds for a particular organization, we are always open to suggestions. Send us your ideas or bring it up to a board member.

Thank You,
Dan

Sunshine Committee:

All of our condolences go out to the family of Rich Winter, and Art Neiswonder former members who recently passed away. To Tom Davide, Tony Gutka, and Rocco Giansante for their recent hospitalizations. And to Fran Conboy's grandson who is recovering from a recent surgery. Our thoughts go out to club members who lost family members: Stephanie Soforic's father, Charles Aronica's father and to Carolyn DiFrancesco's sister. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you this Christmas Season.

Please **help us** with keeping up with members that are ill or have passed away by contacting Vince Dell'Isola at 695-2447 or Kevin Canali at 614-330-5252.

This will help in keeping our members informed, so they could contact them if help is needed when they are sick and

express their condolences. We are a **big family** who wants to help each other when needed. Thanks

Program Committee Report:

The following events are planned for this year. We are looking for help from members as either a chairmen of the event or to help volunteer. Contact Dan at Pres@RenClub.org.

Children's Xmas Party	December	9th
TV drawing	December	9th
Directors Meeting (6:30pm)	December	13th
Membership Meeting (8pm)	December	13th
Ugly Sweater Holiday Party (8-11pm)	December	16th
Trivia Night	None in Dec	January
Learn to make Prosciutto		DTBD
Shuffle Board Tournament	January	DTBD
Bourbon Tasting	Jan or Feb	DTBD

UGLY SWEATER CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday December 16th

\$20 from 8-11pm

*open bar (no shots)

*Shot girls with samplings

*Pizza and wings

*Bring dish to share (optional)

50/50 drawing and liquor raffle

PRIZE FOR BEST SWEATER!!



UGLY SWEATER PARTY

"Breakfast with Santa"

Our annual Children's Christmas Party will be held on Saturday December 9th at 10am. Members' who have signed up their children and grandchildren ages 8 and under are invited to attend. Santa's helpers have been busy preparing for their guests and are looking forward to his arrival at the club.

Also we need help setting up for the Children's Christmas party. We are meeting Friday Dec 8th at 7:30 to get all tables and chairs ready. Anyone that could show up would be greatly appreciated.

Scholarship Report:

Last year due to lack of applicants the Renaissance Club did not offer their annual college scholarship. This year there has been some early interest and we may restart it. Stay tuned for more information to come.



Christmas in Italy



Bar hours:

*****The Club will be closed on December 25th and January 1st due to the Holiday. Still up for decision is whether the club will be open on Christmas Eve December 24th and on New Years Eve December 31st. Please come to the December member meeting to discuss this topic. Also effective immediately the Club will be closed on Sundays.*****

Monday thru Friday	5pm till 11pm
Saturday	1pm till 11pm
Sunday	closed

Bills Sunday – Club now closed

Starting immediately the club will be closed Sundays for Bills games due to lack of patrons. This was a decision made by the board, if you would like to discuss it further please come to the monthly member meeting.

Trivia Night

Due to extremely busy holidays, we will not have a trivia night in December. Trivia will resume in January at a date to be determined.

Spaghetti Night:

Past night will be **CLOSED ON THURSDAY DECEMBER 28**. But otherwise all other regularly scheduled pasta night will continue in December and after the 28th will resume January 4th, 2018.

Please join us for our Delicious spaghetti, ravioli, sausage, and deserts every Thursday. HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE CLUB.

Lotto:

Vince Dell 'Isola is selling the 2018 Lotto books. The new lotto begins on March 1, 2018 to February 28, 2018. Captains can pick up their books at the club or call 695-6129 and leave a message for Vince and he will contact you. Calendars are available at the bar. Lotto books are \$30.00. The three digit New York State EVENING DRAW number is the number that is used to determine the winner. Lotto is one of our major fund-raisers for the club. Your support is greatly appreciated

Christmas Decorations

A big thanks to Dan and Susie Kwiatkowski for putting up the Christmas decorations around the club!

Food Pantry

You may have seen in the front entrance to the club a donation barrel for non-perishable food items which we collected and donated to the local food pantry for Thanksgiving. Thank you to everyone who donated, there are many needed families this time of year who are very grateful. We will do a second collection for Christmas. Also thank you to Dave Stimson for picking up and delivering the items.

For many Italian-American families a big Christmas Eve meal of different fish dishes is now a very popular tradition! It's known as The Feast of the Seven Fishes ('Esta dei Sette Pesci' in Italian). The feast seems to have its root in southern Italy and was brought over to the USA by Italian immigrants in the 1800s. It now seems more popular in American than it is in Italy.

Common types of fish eaten in the feast include Baccala (salted Cod), Clams, Calamari, Sardines and Eel.

There are different theories as to why there are seven fish dishes eaten. Some think that seven represent the seven days of creation in the Bible, other say it represents the seven holy sacraments of the Catholic Church. But some families have more than seven dishes! You might have nine (to represent the Christian trinity times three), 13 (to represent Jesus and his 12 disciples) or 11 (for the 11 disciples without Jesus or Judas!)

The Christmas celebrations start eight days before Christmas with special 'Novenas' or a series of prayers and church services. Some families have a 'Creppo' or [Yule Log](#) which is burnt through the Christmas season.

In Italian Happy/Merry Christmas is 'Buon Natale' and in Sicilian it's 'Bon Natali'.

[Epiphany](#) is also important in Italy. On Epiphany night, children believe that an old lady called 'Befana' brings presents for them. The story about Befana bringing presents is very similar to the story of [Babushka](#). Children put stockings up by the fireplace for Befana to fill. On Christmas day 'Babbo Natale' (Santa Claus) might bring them some small gifts, but the main day for present giving is on Epiphany.

