



Triangle Italian-American Heritage Association
PO Box 20266
Raleigh, NC 27619 www.theitalianclub.com

Newsletter



December/Dicembre 2006

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear TIAHA Brothers,

First of all, I can't believe that 2006 is coming to an end. Second, and more importantly, I look back at the past year and marvel at what we, as an organization, have accomplished. Our 25th Anniversary year was quite successful.

A multitude of charity work including monetary donations, material items, and in the time we spent in supporting these various events, projects, and very worthy causes. Our list of causes goes up each year and includes: Oxford House Christmas and summer Bulls game, The Healing Place, Red Cross Blood Drive, Camp Shalom, Source Force, Special Olympics, Books for Troops, and others.

Our scholarship was increased this year as a result of the highly successful Christmas raffle we had last December (Get those tickets sold and in for this year). We moved our storage locker from its Lake Wheeler Rd. to a much more convenient Cardinal Storage right next to the K of C. Adopt –A-Highway gets done each quarter.

We participated in and brought income in at St. Raphael's Feast, St. Michael's Festival, and the annual International Festival as well. We had the best Italian vs. Irish softball game ever (even though we lost, we were really were competitive this year). The family picnic and other member/family events were special and very well attended. We played some poker and lots of laughs

Unfortunately, we lost some TIAHA Brothers and Brother's family members this year. Please remember to keep our ailing brothers and families in your thoughts and prayers.

The most important thing about all the above is that we did all this as a family. As Brothers. Everything we have accomplished, came to fruition as a result of your efforts and participation. I can't express enough gratitude to everyone in this organization who, no matter what your level of participation was, you were part of TIAHA's successful 2006.

It is coming to the time for you the members to select a new Board of Officers. It is time for some of you to step up and volunteer to be on the Board in a position where you can help us progress even further. Vinnie Doria heads up the election committee and has already asked for folks to fill the vacating offices. We will have elections in February and New Board Installation in March. This club belongs to all of us, but we will need a strong and dedicated Board to accomplish and exceed our goals. I know we can.

Don't forget that the general meeting on Dec. 20th is a Pot Luck Dinner meeting for wives, girlfriends, significant others, or dates.

Last name starts with:

A - D Appetizers or Salad

E - N Main Course

O - Z Desert

Please make sure to bring enough of your dish to feed at least 6 people.

Every person attending must please bring a "grab bag" Christmas Present. It can be serious or a gag gift, but we figure you can spend between \$5 to \$10 and everyone gets to go home with a Christmas gift.

Christmas and the Holidays are for family. Come and join your TIAHA Family in celebrating this most joyous of all holidays. This would also be an excellent night to bring that prospective member and his wife. It doesn't get much better than this.

Lastly, I personally want to thank everyone for all the support you have given me in my last two very proud years as President of TIAHA. As I have said above, **We** have accomplished a great deal this past year and it all falls upon you, the Brothers of TIAHA. I truly wish all of you, your Wives and Mates, and your Families the most Joyous Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Fraternally yours,

Frank

TIAHA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 14th, 2006 at Knights of Columbus, New Hope Road and Columbus Road, Raleigh, NC

In attendance: Frank Ferraro, Vinnie Doria, Vince Salvaggio, Bob Vetrano, Dave Baron, John Bono, Victor Cononi, Carmine DiGrande, Peter Cari

Frank reviewed International Fest. Tentative total gross- \$3,350. Approximate expenses- \$1,750, leaving profit of \$1,300.

Frank assigned to board members a call list of those who do not have e-mail:

Frank Ferraro: Ed Cafferla Carmine Sacchitello Women’s Club	Vinnie Doria Joe Caterino Tony Romano Mario Gugliemi	Peter Cari Don Savino Mike Vavaro	Vince Salvaggio Tony Manzi Luigi Rigutto
Bob Vetrano Vince Sorrentino John Ferrante Rudy DeFrancisci	Dave Baron Joe Pugliese Jerry Santoro	John Bono Virgil Luciani	

RAFFLE - Need to step up sales. Tickets have been returned by Joe Frangiosa and Daniel Guliano.

OXFORD HOUSE

John Colombo Chairman. We have received \$250 from the Knights and \$250 from the Odd Fellows. The Sons of Italy, will not be contributing this year. However, John LaRocca said that there were several new bikes that could be donated. The cottage that we will be working with this year has eight children. It is anticipated that we will spend \$125.00 per child.

HEALING PLACE Need household goods, clothes, games, furniture.

OPERATION BIT OF HOME. An organization that provides our troops with personal items not supplied by the defense department, such s soaps, shampoo, toothpaste, feminine items, movies, sports equipment, books, etc. possibly a presentation at our meeting. See the website operationabitofhome.com

Christmas Party

Pot Luck December 17th at Odd Fellows 2:00 P.M. Everyone to bring a \$5.00 gift. We will invite women’s club. Dave Baron to check on this. Children and grandchildren included.

VALENTINE’S DINNER-DANCE. Early February-late January. Victor Cononi to chair.

Next board meeting 12/5 Victor Cononi to secure place for dinner and meeting.

Frank to check with Roy Cordato to publish criteria for scholarship.

Nomination committee to be appointed at next membership meeting.

TIAHA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 5th, 2006 at Knights of Columbus, New Hope Road and Columbus Road, Raleigh, NC

In Attendance: Frank Ferraro, Bob Cenfetelli, Vinnie Doria, John Bono, Victor Cononi, Bob Vetrano, Vince Salvaggio, Dave Baron, Vince Conzolla, Charlie Morabito, Peter Cari

- ❑ **RAFFLE**
 - Ticket sales are moving along. Need to do more promoting. Tony Infantino may be able to provide big discount on TV.

- ❑ **DECEMBER POTLUCK DINNER**
 - Decided to have CD's for music. Frank will make two pasta dishes: linguini with clam sauce and penne de casa, which is garlic, chicken, & sun dried tomatoes. There will be long stemmed roses for the spouses, which Frank will purchase. Reminder to bring \$5.00 gift.

- ❑ **SCHOLARSHIP FUND**
 - Roy Cordato to bring criteria to January board meeting.

- ❑ **OXFORD HOUSE**
 - Wrapping of gifts was completed in 15 minutes. Gathering lasted 3 hours. It was a good social event..

- ❑ **INTERNATIONAL FEST**
 - ❑ Approximately \$1,100 profit. Frank attended an after event meeting where the past and future were discussed. Frank has asked John Argento to provide a breakdown of the \$3,996 we paid to the festival. John Bono suggested that Frank contact Joyce Kekas who is on the city council and was very active in the past festival planning.

- ❑ **HEALING PLACE**
 - ❖ Victor Cononi and Frank are meeting with Dennis Parnell. Need to get publicity.

TIAHA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

November 15th, 2006 at Knights of Columbus, New Hope Road and Columbus Road, Raleigh, NC

Meeting called to order by President Ferraro. Pledge of allegiance recited.

GUESTS

- ✓ Tony Riali, moved to U. S. from the Mount Giavonne area when he was five years old through the Catholic Relief Fund. Guest of Sal Notarmaso
- ✓ Wolfgang Ruech from Innsbruck, Austria. His grandfather was from Milan. Guest of Vic Cononi.

VETERANS DAY

- ✓ Carmine DiGrande read letter he received about appreciating our veterans.

GOOD AND WELFARE

- ✓ Lou Baffaro died.
- ✓ Vince Conzola's father died.
- ✓ Frank related that Matea Guarino thanked us for inviting their family to the picnic. It was a big thing to them.

OLD BUSINESS

OXFORD HOUSE

- ✓ John Colombo said that wrapping of gifts would take place December 3rd. We are invited to dinner and distribution of gifts on December 14th. Sign up with John. John Bono will be Santa Claus.

HEALING PLACE

- ✓ If anyone has additional items for the Healing Place, call Fran, he will pick up.

OPERATAION A BIT OF HOME

- ✓ We will collect items to be sent to troops in Iraq in January. This group has a website: operationabitofhome.com. Check it out. They provide personal items not supplied by the Defense Department. Soaps, shampoo, toothpaste, feminine items, movies, sports equipment, books..

TOYS FOR TOTS

- ✓ We will be donating. Please bring unwrapped gifts.

INTERNATION FESTIVAL

- ✓ Great social event, with eventual good participation. We should have between \$1,200- 1,400 profit towards our charitable endeavors.

RAFFLE TICKETS

- ✓ Will be held December 20th. Easy to sell. See Frank for more tickets.

NEW BUSINESS

BOARD MEMBERS

- ✓ Frank asked each board member to call several members who do not have e-mails.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- ✓ Vinnie Doria-Chair, Charlie Morabito, Bob Cenfetilli, John Colombo & Vincent Lanzola. To report at January meeting.

SON'S OF ITALY

- ✓ We are all invited to their meeting November 17th. 6:30 Shriners Hall. They will have as a guest speaker, who will discuss his film " A Beautiful Memory

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

- ✓ Criteria to be published prior to award date. Applications to be completed and submitted by the April meeting. Will be awarded at May meeting. Request applications from Frank.

DECEMBER BOARD MEETING

- ✓ December 5th at Casa Carbone.

□

CHRISTMAS PARTY

- ✓ After some discussion, it was decided to hold a potluck dinner on December 20th to include spouses.
Each participant to bring wrapped \$5.00 gift.
 - A-J Main Courses
 - K-O Salads or Appetizers
 - P-Z Desserts

□ **WISE GUY PARTY**

- ✓ Joe Caterino is chairing. To be held February 24th at the Knights.

□ **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

- ✓ Bob Giannuzzi said that Exploris would be presenting a traditional Italian Christmas on Saturday December 2nd.

□ **KNIGHT'S RAFFLE**

- ✓ Trip to Italy for four. \$100/ticket. Only 125 tickets to be sold. Contact Vetrano or Frank for tickets.

□ **PRESIDENT'S AWARD**

- ✓ John Ferrante

□ **50/50**

- ✓ \$36-Ron Little. Donated to Oxford House Fund..

□ **COOKS**

- ✓ Carmine Digrande, Bob Vetrano and Rudy DeFrancisci

ITALY

"Buon Natale"

Christmas, as it is celebrated in Italy, has two origins: the familiar traditions of Christianity blended with the pagan traditions predating the Christmas era. The greatest feast of the ancient Roman Empire, "Saturnalia" (a winter solstice celebration), just happens to coincide with the Christmas celebrations of the Advent. Consequently, Christmas fairs, merry-making and torch processions, honor not only the birth of Christ, but also the birth of the "Unconquered Sun." "Natale," the Italian word for Christmas, is literally the translation for "birthday."

A delightful, but rapidly disappearing tradition in Italy, is the ushering in of the coming festivities by the "Piferari" or fifers. They descend from the mountains of the Abruzzo and Latium playing inviting and characteristic tunes on their bagpipes, filling the air with anticipation for the joyous celebration to come.

Christmas Eve is a time for viewing Italy's artistic and elaborate manger scenes or Cribs. They consist of figurines, in clay or plaster, of the infant Jesus, Mary and Joseph. An ox and ass are nearby because legend has it that they warmed the child with their breath. It is around this basic focal point that individual artisans create their own intricate landscapes. There may be grottoes, small trees, lakes, rivers, the lights of "Bethlehem" in the background, angels hung from wires, and occasionally, even local heroes. The most beautiful Cribs are set up in churches. There is often a contest between churches of the same town for the best Crib. People go from church to church to view and compare the Cribs and displays.

Another tradition is the burning of the Yule log, which must stay alight until New Year's Day. This, again, is an example of pagan and Christian blending. The pagan belief explains the purifying and revitalizing power of fire, and that with the burning log, the old year and its evils are destroyed. Christian legend tells how the Virgin Mary enters the homes of the humble at midnight while the people are away at Midnight Mass and warms her newborn child before the blazing log.

Amidst the general merrymaking and religious observance of Christmas Eve, Christmas tapers (long slender candles) are lighted and a Christmas banquet is spread. In some places, Christmas Eve dinner consists largely of fish. There may be as many as 10 to 20 fish dishes prepared. In Rome, the traditional dish of Christmas Eve is "Capitone," a big female eel, roasted, baked or fried. North of Rome a traditional dish may be pork, sausage packed in a pig's leg, smothered in lentils, or turkey stuffed with chestnuts.

Common throughout Italy are the Christmas sweets: "panettone" (cake filled with candied fruit), "torrone" (nougat) and "panforte" (gingerbread) made with hazelnuts, honey and almonds. All Christmas sweets, as a rule, contain nuts and almonds. Peasant folklore theorizes that to eat nuts favors the fertility of the earth and aids in the increase of flocks and family. In ancient Rome, honey was offered at this time of year so that the new year might be sweet.

Of Special Note...

On Christmas Eve, Italian children set out their shoes for the female Santa Claus, La Befana, to fill with gifts of all kinds like toys, candies and fruit. If the children were good, their shoes would be filled on Christmas morning. If they were bad, they would find their shoes filled with coal. La Befana is the best-known legend in Italy.

Traditional Dishes From Italy...

SPUMETTI (Chocolate-Hazelnut Meringues)

1 lb. hazelnut meats, coarsely chopped
1 lb. confectioner's sugar
1 oz. cocoa (2tbs.)
2 tsps. cinnamon
5-6 egg whites

Preheat oven to 325 F. Cut baking pan liner paper or brown paper to fit 2 baking sheets and grease lightly. Put hazelnuts, confectioner's sugar, cocoa, and cinnamon in a large bowl; add egg whites and mix well until mixture is well blended--about 5 minutes. Wet hands with water and break off small pieces of mixture (about 1 tbl.) and shape into round balls. Place on baking sheets, 1 inch apart, and bake for approximately 30 minutes. Makes approx. 3 ½ dozen.

"ZUCCHINE IN AGRODOLCE"

(Sweet and Sour Zucchini)

3 tbs. olive oil
4 med. zucchini, thinly sliced
2 cloves garlic, crushed
1 tbl. vinegar
¼ cup water
Salt and pepper
3 tbs. pine nuts

In a large skillet, heat oil and sauté garlic for 2 minutes. Add zucchini and sauté on both sides until golden. Sprinkle with pine nuts, raisins, and salt and pepper to taste and simmer for 3 minutes. Mix vinegar with water and pour into skillet; cover and simmer slowly until zucchini is tender--about 10 minutes. Discard garlic; cool and serve at room temperature.

"STRUFFOLI"

(Honey Balls)

2 cups water
1 cup margarine
4 cups sifted flour
¼ tsp. salt
10 large eggs
16 oz. honey
½ cup pine nuts, toasted
1/3 cup candied orange peels
½ cup (multicolored) cake-decorating sprinkles

Preheat oven to 350 F. Grease two baking sheets lightly. Have eggs at room temperature.

Place water, margarine, and salt in a saucepan and bring to boil. Remove from range and cool for 3 minutes. Stir in flour and mix well. Return to heat and cook, stirring constantly, until mixture forms a ball and leaves sides of pan--about 1 minute. Remove from range and cool for 5 minutes. Add eggs to mixture, one at a time, beating hard for approximately 1 minute after each addition. Fill pastry bag with batter and pipe small rounds (the size of marbles) 1 inch apart onto baking sheets. (Or you can drop by half teaspoons onto baking sheets.) Bake until lightly browned--about 25 minutes. Remove from oven and cool on wire racks.

In a saucepan, heat honey until it comes to rolling boil. Boil for 5 minutes, being careful not to let it boil over. Dip puffs, approximately 12 at a time, into honey and roll around to coat evenly. Remove with slotted spoon onto a plate. Continue until all puffs are dipped. Wet hands with cold water and stick puffs together forming wreath rings, pyramids, or dome shapes. Decorate with toasted pine nuts, candied orange peel, and cake-decorating sprinkles

TIAHA Sponsors la Befana Festivities at the Exploris Museum

As part of Exploris Museum's Holidays Around the World program, on Saturday, December 2, TIAHA sponsored the celebration of la Befana, the good witch who brings gifts to children on the feast of the Epiphany (see below). June Little (on incredibly short notice!) portrayed this legendary figure and gave out wonderful Italian candy to visiting children. Entertainment was provided by our good friend Larry Vellani's Mebanesville band, who played and sang a great program of Italian music. Most impressive was their rendition of the Twelve Days of Christmas in Italian. In spite of a small turnout, those in attendance had a great time in this extraordinary opportunity to get in the Christmas spirit Italian style. Even hubby Ron missed it – he was home cooking baccala.

Many thanks go out to June and Larry's group.



Mebanesville in Italiano

BACKGROUND

[La Befana](#) is one of Italy's oldest and most celebrated legends. Each year on January 6 the children of Italy awaken in hopes that La Befana has made a visit to their house. This is a significant day to Italians because it marks the end of the Christmas season and the day that the three Wise Men arrived at the manger of the Christ child. Over the years the [Epiphany](#) has been a more celebrated holiday for the children of Italy than even Christmas.

Continued on next page

As legend has it the three Wise Men were in search of the Christ child when they decided to stop at a small house to ask for directions. Upon knocking, an old woman holding a broom opened the door slightly to see who was there. Standing at her doorstep were three colorfully dressed men who were in need of directions to find the Christ child. The old woman was unaware of who these three men were looking for and could not point them in the right direction. Prior to the three men leaving they kindly asked the old woman to join them on their journey. She declined because she had much housework to do. After they left she felt as though she had made a mistake and decided to go and catch up with the kind men. After many hours of searching she could not find them. Thinking of the opportunity she had missed the old woman stopped every child to give them a small treat in hopes that one was the Christ child. Each year on the eve of the Epiphany she sets out looking for the baby Jesus. She stops at each child's house to leave those who were good treats in their stockings and those who were bad a lump of coal.

Make sure to keep those stockings hung by the chimney in hopes that La Befana will soon be there.



La Befana giving candy to Carolina Mascatello

It's that time of year again...

OK youse guys, pay up

Annual TIAHA membership dues are due by October 31st. Please complete the form and mail it with a check for the appropriate amount to the address below. Even if none of your information has changed please complete the entire form so we can verify our membership records. Note the Hobbies and Skills section on the form. TIAHA members have a great diversity of talents and interests that we can share with one another. Whether it be cooking, woodworking, plumbing, etc., let us know what you're good at, so that if other members need help with a project they have a resource in the club to turn to.

Grazie,

Vince Conzola

Name: _____ Age: _____ Birthday: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____

Preferred e-mail (address to which you want all TIAHA correspondence sent)

Spouse's name: _____ Birthday: _____

Wedding Anniversary: _____

Business Title or Profession: _____

Employer: _____

Hobbies and Skills: _____

Dues schedule (check the appropriate line):

_____ \$45.00 - General membership

_____ \$35.00 - General membership with pledge to commit 10 hours of time to club activities over the next 12 months

_____ \$22.50 - Members 62 years and older

Make checks payable to : TIAHA

and mail to : Vince Conzola
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5313 Fireside Dr.
Raleigh, NC 27609

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Oxford Orphanage Christmas Party

The dinner at the Oxford Home will be **Thursday, December 14 at 6:30.**

We will meet at Starbucks on 7498 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh at 5:00PM and leave for the orphanage at 5:30PM.

Hair Champs

A Family Hair Salon

Looking great shouldn't be a sacrifice!



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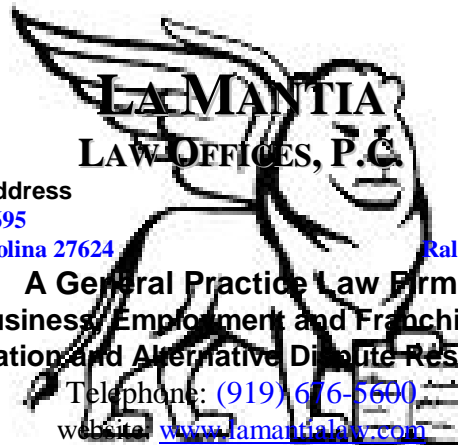
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Brothers,

I received a Thank You note from Matea Baffaro. She expressed her heartfelt thanks for our Mass Card, and to all the TIAHA Brothers that came to the Visitation and Funeral Mass in support of her family and in the memory, love, and respect for Lou.

She went on to convey how important TIAHA was to Lou and how he so enjoyed going to meetings and other events. She said that the Birthday Party we threw, and the Family Picnic, were two of his most enjoyed events in the waning months of his failing health.

Frank



August Meeting Lou Baffaro B-17 Navigator

Editor's note: I had the great honor to have Lou Baffaro fly my aircraft during our June meeting. He kindly agreed to return to Cox Field to describe his WWII experiences for the September meeting.

There have been three phases to my flying career: First, 35 missions as a navigator in WWII. Second, flying for Air Transport Command after the war. Third, the 11 years when I owned a C-172.

My brother was in the Navy, so I tried to join too, as an aviator. "You're too short," was the recruiter's reply. When he let me know that "you will go where we tell you to," I decided not to volunteer, but wait to be drafted instead. When this finally happened, I joined the Army and was trained to be a mechanic. Since the army had enough mechanics, I spent most of my time sweeping floors.

While stationed in Arkansas, I talked my way into a flight in an AT-6, my first flight ever. The pilot decided to show me how to dogfight, and it is a wonder that I stayed in aviation after that first experience.

In the early days of the war, our bomber crews were really having a go of it. Eyesight requirements were reduced to 20/30, and I qualified for navigator training. When we then lost 60 planes on the Schweinfurt raid, the Army needed 60 navigators quickly, and my crew was called to action.

We picked up a brand new B-17 in Lincoln, NB, and flew it to England via Vermont, Newfoundland and Ireland. We navigators were taught three forms of navigation: celestial, which didn't work too well when the sky was cloudy, pilotage, which was useless over the ocean, and dead-reckoning. Since the weather was often so bad in Europe that only dead-reckoning was possible, I was the only crew member busy all of the time on long missions.



Lt. Lou Baffaro, US Army Air Corps, describes his experiences navigating a B-17 crew through 35 missions over Europe. The EAA's Aluminum Overcast bears the same markings as aircraft from Lou's squadron, the 398th.

For celestial navigation, one needed to learn only 12 stars to get a fix. On one of our first training missions over Europe, I guess I impressed my crew. The weather was cloudy; when a hole appeared in the cloud, I saw one star and was able to quickly determine our position and give the pilot a new heading to fly. When we broke out of the clouds, the crew could see a prominent landmark below, a horse carved on the side of the hill, exactly where and when I predicted it would be. From that point on, I didn't have much trouble with our pilot, who did not have the best reputation in our squadron.

We learned how to use "G", which was an early form of radio navigation developed by the English. With it, we could obtain a fix in two minutes up to a distance of 100 miles from London. I got to be pretty good at this, and eventually got the calculation time down to 20 seconds.

The 8th Air Force had many casualties in combat, but also many during normal operations. I remember one mission, Christmas Eve 1944, when one aircraft crashed on take off, blocking the runway. Controllers advised all other aircraft to hold, but one pilot in a plane next to ours, apparently not hearing this, grew impatient, rolled onto the runway for takeoff, pulled up to avoid



the other wreck, stalled and crashed, killing the entire crew. Weather was also often a factor, causing many crashes and collisions.

After completing my 35 combat missions, I was assigned as a navigator to Air Transport Command, ATC. Our job was to fly ranking officers to various locations in Europe at the end of the war. On one trip from our base at Orly airport in Paris, we flew the Undersecretary of War, Robert Patterson, on a tour of all the generals in our C-47. While waiting to depart from Regensburg, a boarding crew member said "We're going to tell Patton that the war is over." I knew before General Patton!

After the war I joined IBM and earned my pilot's license. I purchased a 1956 Cessna-172 and enjoyed flying it for 11 years.

Do as much as you can while you can. Don't wait—you never know what's going to happen to you.

EAA1114



Claude Burkhead receiving Lou's signature in Tom Brokaw's best-seller, *The Greatest Generation*, to which Lou contributed. Page 15 of 18

The Christmas Eve Dinner

by [Anthony Parente](#)

One of the big mysteries surrounding Christmas Eve has to do with dinner and the significance of the number of fish dishes prepared. Many people have asked me why do we have seven different fish dishes? To be honest I never knew why myself. Every Christmas Eve I can remember smelling the various fishes as my Mother prepared them. I never knew why we had to prepare so many I just knew that this meal had to consist of dishes that did not contain any meat and the number of fishes prepared had to be seven. The purpose for meatless dishes was due to the fact that the night prior to a religious feast was considered a vigil. During this religious observance meat is usually not served. I didn't know why seven was so special and I think no one else in my family did either. It is one of those traditions you do every year even though you don't know why it was ever done to begin with. The tradition was passed down from generation to generation, but somewhere along the way the meaning got left behind. What could the number seven truly mean?

As I searched for the answer I found out that this tradition isn't one that you will find in all Italian households. In fact it appears that this is mainly a central and southern tradition and it is not upheld in the north. Of the regions that partake in this tradition each seems to do things slightly different. The biggest differences are the number of fish dishes prepared. Some prepare nine, eleven, or thirteen. Whichever number you prepare there is a meaning and reason for doing so.

The number seven seemed to have quite a few different meanings. The meanings all go on what you and your family have believed in over the centuries. Some of these meanings consist of the days in a week, the seven pilgrimage churches in Rome, or the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, but the one that seems to be the most widely known reason is the seven sacraments.

The number nine appears to represent the Holy Trinity times three, while the number eleven stands for the Apostles minus Judas, and conversely the number thirteen represents the 12 Apostles plus Jesus. I am sure these are not the only reasons for each number.

My family has always followed the tradition of preparing seven fishes for Christmas Eve. The dishes that my family prepared are: [baccalà](#), [baked shrimp](#), [fried calamari](#), [pasta with anchovies](#), [pesce a la padella](#), [sandy eels](#) and [steak fish](#).. **Buon Natale!**

ON A PERSONAL NOTE:



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Dave and Joan Baron
Neal and Edna Caliendo
Vin and Stephanie Lanzolla
Vince and Sherry Salvaggio



BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

MEMBERS

Andrew Caamano
John McShane
Joseph Miracola
Jerry Santoro
Ron Venezia

SIGNIFICANT OTHERS

Dee Bono
Theresa Caamano
Judy Caprioli
Eileen Cenfetelli
Frances Ludlow
Elaine Marino
Julie Monica
Donna Morea

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS:

Vince Conzola's father **Joseph Conzola** passed away November 10th, 2006 in Endicott, NY from congestive heart failure.

Lou Baffaro passed away November 8th, 2006.

Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.



EDITOR:

Is something newsworthy?
Let us know, send it to

Neal Caliendo: nealcali@yahoo.com

If you know of an illness, birth, death, marriage, etc., of a TIAHA member or member's family, please contact:

Neal Caliendo: nealcali@yahoo.com

(919)846-2747

and/or

Tony Aiello: taiello1@nc.rr.com

(919)554-4676

If your e-mail and/or home address changes, please notify **Vince Conzola**, at (919) 878-7976, conzola@us.ibm.com .

The **deadline** for submitting input to the newsletter is the **second Wednesday of the month.**



**Triangle Italian-American Heritage Association
P.O. Box 20266, Raleigh, North Carolina 27619**

TIAHA UPCOMING EVENTS

December 14th (Thursday), 6:30 PM – OXFORD ORPHANAGE CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 20th (Wednesday), 6:30 PM - GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Knights of Columbus, New Hope and Columbus Roads, Raleigh.

January 2nd (Tuesday), 6:30 PM – EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: Knights of Columbus, New Hope and Columbus Roads, Raleigh.

January 17th (Wednesday), 6:30 PM - GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Knights of Columbus, New Hope and Columbus Roads, Raleigh.