



MARINAI d'ITALIA NEWSLETTER USA GROUPS



Opening of the M. M. Exhibition "Ocean Stories"



On Wednesday, June 6th, was held a ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the official opening of the Ocean Stories an Italian Navy Exhibition, which is now opened to the public at the United Nations Headquarters in New York and later at the Italian Embassy in Washington, DC. Before the ceremony the Ambassador of Italy to the United Nations, Dr. Maurizio Massari, the Assistant Secretary General, Dr. Miroslav Jenca, and the Fleet Admiral. Enrico Credendino, Italian Navy Chief of Staff welcomed and addressed the people in attendance. Italy's seafaring has been recalled as an essential characteristic of the nation. The strategic position in the center of the Mediterranean Sea and the multiple commercial relations with the rest of the world require the active presence of the Italian Military Navy in all those basins where safeguarding the national interest is a priority that cannot be renounced. Admiral Credededino illustrated in great detail the 4 areas on which the exhibition is articulated: the "Ocean Planet", interpreted not as fragmented but as one huge sea that unites all of us, the "Rhythm" that marks the daily activities of those who live on the sea, the Amerigo Vespucci,

symbol and pride of the Italian Navy that is now conducting an around the World tour, exporting very important values for mankind such as equality, inclusion, solidarity and hospitality. The fourth area is dedicat-



ed to the main value of the Italian Navy: the "People". The crews are made up of men and women employed as sailors, naval aviators, engineers, doctors, divers, special forces and amphibious forces. In attendance to the opening ceremony were also CC Division General Fabrizio Parrulli, Attaché for the Defense and Military Adviser for the Italian Permanent Representation to the United Nations, Admiral Rollo, Head of the Public Information and Communication Office of the Naval General Staff (UPICOM), the Naval Attaché, CV Bagni, and our Sailors of the NJ and NY ANMI Groups who visited and pleasantly interacted with the numerous guests, and with the Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers present.



ITALIAN REPUBLIC DAY IN BOSTON



This year the Italian Republic Day in Boston was divided into 2 events: the first Saturday, June 1st at Anthony's restaurant in Malden, MA and the second, in the early afternoon of Sunday, June 2nd, as part of the Italian Festival organized in Medford, MA. Both locations are located in the metropolitan area of Boston City. It is interesting to note that the events were

presence of the Honorable Christian Di Sanzo, Representative of Italians residing in the United States, and the Consul of Boston, Dr. Arnaldo Minuti, made the two events particularly significant. In the authorities addresses to the numerous people present, the universally recognized value of the activities carried out by Italians in the US was widely



organized by the Federation of Italian Associations present in the area, which includes about 20 Associations of various kind. The crisis of associationism in general has led to the creation of this federation with the goal of achieving a more meaningful total number of associates at events by joining forces and resources. Having each of the individual association conduct activity separately presents difficulties, both of an organizational and economic nature. The two events took place in an atmosphere of great cordiality. The



emphasized both in terms of work on the territory of the United States and in the field of study and scientific research, as underlined by Dr. Paolo Gaudenzi, counselor for Science and Technology, during his address at the dinner dance event of June 1st, which he attended representing the Consul General.

THE STORY OF LIVIO CAPILLA

USN NAVAL AVIATOR, ITALIAN, ISTRIAN AND NEWEST BANFI GROUP MEMBER

Born in the small town of Umago, in Istria, on Christmas Day, 1946, I was raised by my maternal grandparents, while my parents were trying to start a new life, following the War, in the war-torn city of Trieste, my dad as a Police Officer, in what was then called the Free Territory of Trieste. I stayed on the farm with my grandparents until it was time to start school, and to do so in Italian, I joined my parents in Trieste in 1952. After my completion of the fourth grade, my dad received the best news of his life, the possibility to immigrate to the United States, so on July 1, 1956, we sailed from Genoa to the land of opportunity and reached New York City on July 9th, a date forever etched in my heart.



We found housing in the city of Hoboken, NJ, the melting pot of many different cultures from Europe. There I was able to complete my schooling, finishing my grammar school, high school and ultimately earned a scholarship to attend St. Michael's College in Burlington, VT.

Upon graduation in 1969, I joined the Aviation Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, FL., and obtained my commission as an Ensign in March of 1970, and my Naval Aviator Wings as a helicopter pilot in May of 1971. My first tour of duty as an SH-3D pilot was in the Submarine Warfare Squadron HS-11, based in Quonset Pt., R.I., and deployed aboard the USS Intrepid. With the Intrepid, our squadron made two back-to-back cruises, one to Northern Europe, the second one to the Mediterranean Sea, always seeking to track enemy submarines, and during the Cold War, you can imagine who they were! At the end of 3-year sea duty on Jan 1975 I was assigned to Naval Air Facility, Naples, Italy to fly the H-46 in support of US Navy operations in the Naples area both as Medevac support and VIP transport, and Sixth Fleet Aircraft Carrier support in Naples and surrounding areas. After a year and a half, the Navy closed the Naples Air Facility and moved all aircraft to Naval Air Facility Sigonella, Sicily, to the newly formed VR-34 composite squadron. In July of 1977 I was selected to transition to the Navy RH-53D helicopter, 3 of which had been assigned to the new squadron.



After a 6-month extensive training program back in the States, in January 1978 I started what was considered my second "sea tour" at NAF Sigonella,

which lasted 3 1/2 year. During this tour, as pilots of the RH-53D, we distinguished ourselves by providing to the Sixth Fleet Aircraft Carriers the type of support they had never seen before due to the outstanding heavy lift capabilities of the helicopter, named Sea Stallion. In November 1980, we participated in the earthquake relief effort for Irpinia and surrounding areas, and for our effort we received special recognition by the Italian Civil Protection Department.

Following this rewarding tour, I was transferred to NAS Whiting Field, Pensacola, FL., as a Helicopter Flight Instructor at HT-18. There, while instructing in the H-1 Huey, I had the distinct honor and pleasure of flying with the current Italian DoD Chief of Staff, Fleet Admiral Giuseppe Cavo Dragone and some of his colleagues from the Italian Naval Academy, sent to Pensacola and other US Navy training bases, for their fixed wing and helicopter training.



Following this 2 1/2-year tour, I was assigned to the Mediterranean Fleet Air Command based in Naples, Italy. There I was tasked with scheduling and providing air support to Sixth Fleet units throughout the Mediterranean theater and utilizing air assets from the various bases in Italy, Spain and Greece. This was my toughest assignment in the Navy, since it was a non-flying assignment and I was stuck in an office, with only many espresso coffee cups during my duty hours as diversion! On June 1990 I completed my 20 years US Navy career at NAS Sigonella after transitioning to fly a fixed wing aircraft, named C-12, a twin engine turbo prop.

The most gratifying moments in my US Naval Aviator career were the daily contact and interactions with our counterpart Italian Naval Aviators and Air Force pilots while stationed at NAS Sigonella, a friendship that has lasted till today.

A DIFFERENT DAY: MEETING OF U.S. GROUPS IN A VINEYARD

And so, in the end, the ANMI USA Groups also 'retired'. Do not be alarmed, dear members, nothing definitive or irreparable. On Sunday, May 26th, taking advantage of the Memorial Day long weekend, the USA Groups met at the Angelico Winery in Lambertville, NJ. A happy retreat, on a sunny morning, surrounded by the scents of spring; a gentle slope where the rows of grape vines stretch out, with their shoots clinging to the stakes, the intertwined shoots, in the synergistic effort to rise



from the ground. Under the eyes of the sailors, accustomed to caressing the waves, those shrubs and shoots become trees, shrouds, spreaders and the field becomes that of a crowded regatta like the Barcolana. Ottavio Angelico, the caring host, a member of the Banfi Group, also prepared the poster of the event, leaving it to Turi Cervone to affix the title: "Today for a tomorrow". An appointment to share reflections, ideas, and proposals to relaunch the Association's activity in the days to come. Participants take the task seriously, engaging in SWOT analysis (a strategic planning tool used to assess strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) weighing each



ease, for an analysis that seems to have been elaborated by a board of directors evicted from the company premises. Nature and the old catechisms are therefore gaining the upper hand. Sailors are like those vine

deadlines, afternoons in the oratory, Sunday masses, games in the square, cruising down main street. Those same rituals that marked our adolescence could be the keystone for an Association that aspires to pass the baton to future generations.

To retain members, making them feel an important part of a community that recognizes itself and manifests (with "rites and liturgies" punctually celebrated) its values and identity. Attracting young people through sport, as well as the oratory, made the moments of prayer that interspersed recreational activities acceptable; making new proselytes with the seduction of social

factor as if they were holding a data sheet drawn up, everything appears clear and coherent, but there is a note of un-

media; opening up to society, sharing the initiatives of other organizations.

Traditional recipes, which have ensured the permanence of religious organizations, enriched by



the new ingredients that modernity offers. So many roads that will join beyond the point of the horizon.

In the vineyard, at worst, an initial "Playbook" has been written!

NEW YORK - UNITED NATIONS



13 May, 2024

Delegations from the National Association of Carabinieri of New York and the National Association of Italian Sailors Amerigo Vespucci Group of New York welcomed General Riccardo Galletta, Deputy Commander General of the Italian Carabinieri, on a visit to the Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations.

Pictured: Mr. Rocco Munna, Gen. Riccardo Galletta, Mr. Paolo Romagno, Gen. Fabrizio Parrulli, Mr. Antonio Ferri