

Sal and Mary Castorina – 2019 Distinguished Citizens of the Year

In keeping with our recent tradition, this year's recipients of the Distinguished Citizens of the Year award are a couple, and they are well known to all of you. Their contributions to the community and to this lodge are way too many to list here, but I'll touch on a few highlights that some of you may not know:

- She mentored two young women at Sussex County School for the Arts for 5 years.
- She started the Hamlet Women's Club and served as its first president.
- She started the clubhouse holiday decorating tradition even before there was a Women's Club.
- She started the tradition of the Hamlet neighborhood adopting needy Sussex County families at Christmas and coordinated the collection and delivery of gifts.
- She started the tradition of collecting non-perishable foods at the Hamlet Women's Club meetings and then expanded the food collection to include the whole neighborhood. She delivers the donations to local food pantries.
- She served as President and as Vice President of the Ladies Auxiliary for the Knights of Columbus and was honored as Lady of the Year for 2018.
- She worked on a breakfast team for 12 years, on a crab team for 4 years and volunteered as a ticket seller on the boardwalk to support Knights of Columbus raffles.
- In our lodge, she formalized charity contributions by establishing and chairing a charity committee.
- She began the tradition of adopting needy families at Christmas where she organized all incoming gifts and coordinated the delivery of gifts to Snow Hill office of Worcester County Giving Other Lives Dignity (G.O.L.D.).
- He has also mentored students in Sussex County schools.
- As a member of the Knights of Columbus, he was the president of the Columbus Club which manages the Knights of Columbus Hall facility.
- He has been an officer in the Knights for years and is instrumental in Knights' functions and fund raising.
- He is a past president of our lodge and has been one of the driving forces behind the continued success and growth of our annual St. Joseph's Festival.
- He acted as contact person for the Grand Lodge of Maryland to hold the last two Statewide Conventions here in Ocean City and helped make all arrangements for successful conventions over the past four years.



Pictured Left to Right: Sal Castorina, Mary Castorina

As a couple they are charity personified. He is a fund raiser *par excellence* and she is a charity organizer like no other.

It is my great honor to present the Sons and Daughters of Italy of Ocean City (Maryland) Distinguished Citizens of the Year Award for 2019 to Sal and Mary Castorina.

Congratulations to Sal and Mary!
The Lodge is proud of your accomplishments.