

**SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY OF OCEAN CITY
LODGE #2474
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
FEBRUARY 1, 2018**

ROLL CALL OF CURRENT MEMBERS: Present: Vito Potenza, Vincent Mollicone, Jane Bartolomeo, Sue Ann Baietti, Rosemarie Pomilla, Tony Parisi, JoAnn Ward, Dottie Tumminello, Al DiOrio, Tom Pomilla, Tom Pergola, Mike Corless, Ilene Parisi, John Rubino and Sal Castoriona
PRINCIPLES OF THE ORDER: Read by Vincent Mollicone

PRAYERS INTENTIONS:

Rosemary Corless, Frank Celeste, Karen DiMartino's mother and all our members who are recovering from various illnesses.

OPENING PRAYER: JoAnn Ward

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Vito Potenza

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 2, 2017 MEETING: Approved as distributed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

1. Welcomed Maryland Grand Lodge President Anita Lombard Riley and Immediate Past Grand Lodge President Frances Cipriotti
2. The Executive Council approved: our sponsorship of: (1) St. Luke's Special Bingo Game on February 21st for \$60.00; (2) \$50 for our participation in the St. Patrick's Day Parade and (3) our continuing preparations for the Festival.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Tony Parisi reported that the lodge was in good financial condition and profitability for 2017 came in slightly better than budgeted. Our bank and investment account balances as of 12/31/17 were as follows:

Operating Account of net funds held in trust for members:	\$ 3,985.
Merchant Account:	\$ 7,920.
Money Market Account:	\$ 7,706.
Investment Account:	\$27,988.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Rosemarie Pomilla

Total Income as of 12/31/17:	\$23,680.77
Total Expenses as of 12/31/17:	\$24,421.09
Deficit Loss of:	\$740.32

REPORT OF ATTENDANCE: Jim Reda

We have 103 in attendance including 6 guests.

MISTRESS OF CEREMONY REPORT: JoAnn Ward sent the following cards to members.

Get Well Cards: Karolyn Pergola, Bernie Busby, Delores Guarino, Catherine Cleary, Rosemarie Corless, Richard Nippes, and Ethel Jacobs.

Sympathy Cards: Mike Lato (Loss of wife) and Guy and Sharon DeMatteo (Loss of Son-in-law)

Special Thanks to the following members who supplied tonight's desserts: Janet Ackerson, Barbara Graziosi, Dee Matthews, Janice Nippes, Donna Potenza, Gina Busby, Gina & Vinnie Mollicone, and Janet Roca.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT: SueAnn Baietti reported we received thank you notes from the following: Worcester Gold, Guy & Sharon DiMatteo, Karolyn Pergola, Diakonia, Worcester County Humane Society, the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, the Community Food Pantry of Delaware, Janet & Bob Ackerson, Mike Lato, Mike Jacobs, St. Luke's Church for sponsoring a hole for their golf tournament and Justin's Beach House for our donation.

NOMINATION OF MISTRESS OF CEREMONY: Deborah Reda has graciously consented to be nominated for a Mistress of Ceremony position. A motion was made by Gina Busby and seconded by Donna Potenza and the motion was unanimously carried by the membership.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS for 2018 – 2020: SOI Lodge Maryland State President Anita Riley presided, assisted by Frances Cipriotti, Past State President. During the Ceremony, the Outgoing Officers were called on and thanked for their service and asked to turn over their regalia. The incoming officers were introduced: President, Vito, Potenza, Vice President Vinnie Mollicone, Recording Secretary Ethel Jacobs (excused), Corresponding Secretary Gina Busby, Treasurer, Tony Parisi, Financial Secretary Rosemarie Pomilla, Mistresses of Ceremony Jane Bartolomeo and Deborah Reda, Orator, Joe Zanetti, Trustees Lucretia Motsco, Ilene Parisi, Tom Pomilla, John Rubino, Frank Tribuno, Jr., Sgt-at-Arms Nick Bartolomeo and Jim Reda and Past President, Sal Castorina. Vito thanked Anita Riley and Frances Cipriotti for being here tonight for this installation ceremony.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **Scholarship:** Donna Potenza – reported that Stephen Decatur High School, Indian River High School and Sussex Technical School have put our application on line and the students must have them completed by March 15th and into their counselors. The counselors will submit them to the scholarship committee by March 30th. The committee will make their selections by May 2nd, and the students will be notified as to the selection of the winners. The winners and families will be invited to our June (Pot Luck Dinner) meeting.
2. **Social:** Rosemarie Pomilla shared the Social Report in Mary Ellen's absence.
 - a. **January Social Dinner:** The dinner at Mio Fratello's was a sellout. Everyone had a great time, the food delicious and the great entertainment provided by Armando and John. Thanks to Jane Bartolomeo and SueAnn Baietti for chairing this event.
 - b. **Harrington Casino Trip:** 45 guests joined us, had a fun time and some even came home with money. The Lodge broke even on the trip.
 - c. **Mardi Gras Dinner Party:** This event will be cancelled for February.
 - d. **New Orleans Trip: April 15-22, 2018 (8 days/7 nights)**
We have 46 guests signed up. Mary Ellen will have luggage tags and trip itineraries available to be picked up at the St. Joseph's Festival on March 24thotherwise, they will be available at the April meeting.
 - e. **Harrington Casino Trip: Wednesday March 21, 2018. Cost \$25.00 (bus costs have risen) Contact Mary Ellen for reservations. Mail your checks to her. There are 16 seats available.**

- f. **April Social Dinner:** Social Dinner will be held on Tuesday, April 10th at Just Hooked Restaurant, in Fenwick Island. This event will be chaired by Carol Coyle and Lucille Kurtz. The menu will be available at the March meeting and members will be contacted by e-mail.
- g. **May Social Dinner:** Will take place at Cripple Creek Golf Course in Dagsboro, Delaware. Details will be available at a later date.
3. **Charity Committee:** Mary Castorina thanked the members for all the lovely Christmas gifts that were given to the families of Worcester Gold, as well as for Ms. Pearl Jackson. Ms. Pearl sent a lovely thank you note, in receipt of her Christmas gift which was bird seed per her request. She, at 100 years old, can look out her window and enjoy all the birds who have come to visit and enjoy their meal. Since we are in a new year, the committee will be meeting to consider the various charities which have been recommended to them for donations.
4. **Publicity & Program:** Anna Foulz
Anna has been on a whirlwind tour promoting her book. She is appearing in the Italian American Magazine this month. A reporter from Connecticut contacted her for an interview regarding her book, which was sold out of the first edition and is soon to begin a second edition. Also, being considered, is a movie being made for Hallmark. As apart of her birthday celebration, she was invited to Annapolis for a special dinner and introduced as the oldest girl scout in America. The proceeds from her book sales goes toward Starr Charities. Anna received a call from a group who invited her to a book signing at the Ocean Pines Library. She went and during her prepared speech, they gave her an award. She was over whelmed and described it, in her usual fun way.
Anna has arranged for a guest speaker for our April Meeting from Station WBOC.
5. **Website (www.sonsofitalyoceancity.com):** Tom Pergola has announced that there are flyers available. On the website is information you might need regarding the festival. Please check it out.
6. **Historian:** Barbara Graziosi announced new additions to the Lodge's History books and invited all to check them out. Among her additions, is a picture of Anna Foulz receiving her DAR Award.
Armando announced information regarding the St. Patrick's Parade which will take place on March 17th. Some members have offered their trucks which will need to be decorated. At 59th Street (7/11 Store), many people are needed to participate by walking in the parade, help to decorate and give out the flyers.
7. **Fund Raising:** Sal Castorina went over dates regarding the Festival. March 16th there will be the committee assembling the baskets. Wednesday, March 21st is cooking day. Thursday, March 22 at 10:00 am., the hall will be set up. Help is needed. Friday morning March 23rd at 10:00am., the stations will be set up, by team captains. Saturday, March 24 is the day of the Festival. Workers, please report no later than 9:30 a.m.
Janet Ackerson thanked everyone who brought in baskets, gifts, wine etc. Those who have additional items to contribute must turn them in no later than March 15th. Items for the Program must also be in to Tom Pergola by February 15th.

PARKING: Additional help is needed to help with parking.....

For the first time, we are required to charge sales tax. The 6% tax will be included in the price charged. The only exception will be: The basket raffles, the cheer raffle and the 50/50 raffle. For the Silent Auction: whatever the winning bid is, the 6% will be added to the bid. There will be no charge on packaged goods (groceries). All food served including bakery items, will be charged sales tax (included in the price).

Mary Ellen Arena will be making 3 cheer baskets and would appreciate donations for her Margarita Basket, Martini Basket and a Fine Wine Basket. Please bring your donations to the March 1st Meeting. Mary Ellen will be assigning "Floaters" to relieve the workers and needs several people to volunteer. Please volunteer.....

She also needs a list from each team captain of the names of volunteers assigned to each team.

We will have a group picture to be taken on Saturday, March 24th. If you want a copy, please see George Ward and sign up at the March meeting. Pictures will be ordered only for those who have signed up. The picture will be taken between 10:00 and 10:30 am. before the Festival officially begins.

Baked Goods for Nonna's Table need to be turned in on the morning of March 24th. Please Sign up at this meeting or at the March meeting. Cookies will be packaged by the ladies at the bake sale. All baked goods are welcome.

8. Membership: Rita Tindell

Rita thanked all those who paid their dues on time.

We welcome two new members: Jo (Josephine) Coyle and Patricia Marchesiello and 4 Guests: Joe Cusato, Jill Gordon, Paulette Mari and Celeste Schepp

NEW BUSINESS:

The Trustees presented the Third Quarter Audit at the November Meeting which was Approved by the Executive Council.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: Presentation of the Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award by Vinnie Mollicone to Sharon DiMatteo for her wonderful contributions on behalf of many organizations.

FOOD JAR: There is a food jar at the Sgt.-of Arms table by the front entrance. Please feel free to donate to the food being served tonight. We thank you for your contribution, and appreciate your help in cleaning up after our social time.

CLOSING PRAYER: Deborah Reda

50/50: \$74.00 was won by Gordon Donahue

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:15 PM. NEXT MEETING IS MARCH 1ST AT 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Bartolomeo, Acting Recording Secretary

