

**SONS OF ITALY LODGE #2474
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES
NOVEMBER 3, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER: President Vito Potenza called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: Vito Potenza, Vincent Mollicone, Jane Bartolomeo, Sue Ann Baietti, Tony Parisi, Dottie Tumminello, Bob Arena, Al Diorio, Ilene Parisi, Tom Pergola, John Rubino, Mike Corless and Sal Castorina. Rosemarie Pomilla and JoAnn Ward were excused.

PRINCIPLES OF THE ORDER: Read by Vice President Vinnie Mollicone

MINUTES: The Minutes of the October 6, 2016, Meeting were approved as distributed.

PRAYER INTENTIONS: Mary Castorina, Irene Ruscigno, Sharon Lato and Paul Harmon.

OPENING PRAYER: Dottie Tumminello

FLAG SALUTE: President Vito Potenza

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Vito Potenza

1. The Gala, where Anna Foulz received the Ameritan Award , was a beautiful tribute to her and attended by friends and family. Special thanks to Barbara Loffler who took pictures of the event.
2. Received an invitation from Wor-Wic Community College to attend the Donor Recognition Reception on Friday, November 18, 2016, at 4:00 PM at the College. Several years ago, the Lodge donated \$15,000 to create the Scholarship Fund. Each year, Wor-Wic selects a student to receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Tony Parisi

Checking Account/Operating – Taylor Bank	\$ 6,748.00
Checking Account/Merchant – Taylor Bank	\$ 6,339.28
Money Market Account – Taylor Bank	\$ 6,456.02
Investment Account – WSFS Wealth Investments	\$27,008.71

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT: Tony Parisi

Income to date:	\$20,800.95
Expenses to date:	\$20,725.02
Net Operating Surplus:	\$ 75.93

REPORT OF ATTENDANCE: Mike Corless

Tonight we have 103 people including 2 guests and 2 new members

MISTRESS OF CEREMONY: Dottie Tumminello

1. A Get Well Card was sent to Sharon Lato.

2. The desserts were donated by: Tom & Joyce Piatti, Sue Palamara, Deb & James Reda, Carol & Marcel Vales, Alcea Sprung, Jean Temple, Don & Rosemary Rogers, Gina & Vinnie Mollicone, Janet Roca and Guy DiMatteo.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Sue Ann Baietti

Anyone who hasn't received their Newsletter, please let Sue Ann know.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **SCHOLARSHIP:** The Committee will begin working on the scholarships after the first of the year.

2. **SOCIAL: Mary Ellen Arena**
 - a. Social Dinner: Fager's Island, November 13 beginning at 5:30 PM
 - b. New York Trip: Cancelled
 - c. Christmas Trip to Washington, DC, December 14, 15 and 16. Leaving St. Andrew's Parish Parking Lot, on Wednesday, December 14 at 6:30 AM. E-mail will be sent to guests with all information and itinerary.
 - d. Social Dinner: Thursday, January 12, 2017, at Mancini's Restaurant, Fenwick Island at 5:30 PM. Jo Alexander will be your host. Deadline for reservations is December 13, 2016.
 - e. Charlestown/Savannah Trip: planned for April 23 to 27, 2017. Deposits for trip were given to Tony Parisi, Treasurer, tonight to be put in the bank. Balance of \$800 for trip due by February 15, 2017. We have 4 seats available. Insurance Forms are available for \$59 per person.
 - f. Finger Lakes Trip: September 2017. Tentative date is September 17, 2017. Tour will include West Point Academy, FDR's Home, Eleanor's Cottage, National Basketball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY, tour and dinner along with Wine Tasting at Belhurst Castle, Lunch at Culinary Institute, narrated Eric Canal Locks cruise aboard the Colonial Belle and many other excursions. Further information at January meeting.

3. **CHARITY: Mary Castorina.....Budget: \$3,500.**

Contributions to date: Including Relay for Life; Grand Lodge Alzheimers Campaign; Grand Lodge Autism Fund; GOLD School Supplies Drive; Italy Earthquake Fund; Wreaths Across America and Northside Park/OC Parks and Recreation.....\$1,550

Recommendations to date: Humane Society of Ocean City; Justin House, Bethany Beach; Kennedy Krieger Institute/Hunter/Nelson-Sturge/Weber Fund; Joseph House, Salisbury; Believe in Tomorrow Children's Foundation, Believe in Tomorrow House by the Sea; American Cancer Society; SEAs the Day; GOLD of Worcester County; and Shirley Grace Pregnancy Center, Berlin\$1,950

Net Balance in Charity budget: \$0

Mary had paper ornaments available for members to take which had suggested items to purchase for the needy families for Christmas, as well as, items for Ms. Pearl. Gifts and certificates can be turned in to Mary at the Holiday dinner.

4. **PUBLICITY and PROGRAM: Anna Fultz**
 - a. Thanked our Club for supporting her for the Ameritan Award presented at the Grand Lodge Gala.
 - b. Waiting for the National Guard to pick up the gifts given for our veterans.
 - c. Beef and Beer Event for our wounded soldiers in Maryland, January 27, 2017, at the Ocean Pines Community Center, catered by Em-ings. There will be a live auction and a Basket of Cheer. Tickets \$25.

5. **WEBSITE: Tom Pergola**

The website has been updated so check it out for some very useful information.

6. **HELPING HANDS: Anna Rubino**

Nothing to report

7. **HISTORIANS: Armando and Barbara Graziosi**

Barbara shared a short history of the beginning of the Sons of Italy in 1905 in New York, by Italian immigrants and their families.

In the past, Armando has chaired the activities for the St. Patrick's Parade. He is currently looking for someone who will work with him and who will eventually take over the position. Please see Armando for more information.

8. **FUNDRAISING: Sal Castorina**
 - a. The Joey & Gina Wedding event cleared \$617. A good time was had by all.
 - b. The sausage sale cleared \$380. Sausages can be picked up tonight.
 - c. Peppers by Bonnie Oliveri are on sale for \$4 a jar.
 - d. Festival: Kick off Meeting went very well. Next meeting January 19, 2017, at St. Andrews Parish Hall at 10:00 AM.
 - e. Additions to next year's festival menu: fried dough and gelato.
 - f. Tom Pergola has agreed to be the co-chair of the St. Joseph's Festival fund raising.
 - g. The Solicitation Letters will be available soon.
 - h. A Team Captain is needed to organize the parking lot for the Festival.
 - i. The Program for the Festival.
 - 1) Tom Pergola explained what is needed for a camera-ready ad.
 - 2) All of the forms will be sent by e-mail to everyone with an explanation of what is needed from people for a camera-ready ad.
 - 3) The completed forms and checks need to be returned to Tom. Receipts for the ads/patrons/memorials are included in the packet of forms.
 - 4) Copies of last year's program are available to show potential advertisers how their ad would be presented.

9. **MEMBERSHIP: Rita Tindall**

Dues notices will be sent out during the week. Members were reminded that annual dues are \$38.00 per person for renewals and \$58.00 for new members. Membership must be paid by January 15, 2017. We welcomed 2 guests visiting tonight and 2 new members, Susan Ciamarra and James Matthews.

10. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. The "Save Columbus Day" Petition drive will continue through April, 2017. If you would like extra petitions to circulate among your friends and family, please check at the front desk. This special day has come to symbolize the amazing contributions the Italian-Americans have made to our Nation.
- b. The Executive Council approved the 2017 budget.

11. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. The Super Raffle Tickets have arrived from the Grand Lodge. The cost is \$25 per ticket, and there will be daily drawings for \$25; the last day of the month the drawing is \$50; on special days (Mother's Day, Father's Day, Christmas, etc.) the winner will receive \$200. Vinnie Mollicone will handle the sale of the tickets.
- b. The schedule for the Christmas Trip will be e-mailed as well as a hard copy to be handed out at the Christmas Dinner.
- c. Volunteers are needed to help clean up after our meetings. Please join us.
- d. We have available a food jar for your convenience to leave a tip to help defray some of the costs of providing food after our meetings. We would appreciate any help you can give us. Our bartender donated \$20 to get us started. Thanks!

CLOSING PRAYER: Dottie Tumminello

50/50: Nancy Tribuno won \$85.00

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Bartolomeo, Recording Secretary