

**SONS OF ITALY, LODGE #2474, GENERAL MEETING  
OCTOBER 5, 2017**

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

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:** PRESENT: Vito Potenza, Vinnie Mollicone, Jane Bartolomeo, SueAnn Baietti, Rosemarie Pomilla, Tony Parisi, JoAnn Ward, Dottie Tumminello, Al D'Orio, Ilene Parisi, Tom Pergola, Tom Pomilla, John Rubino, Mike Corless and Sal Castorina.

**PRINCIPLES OF THE ORDER:** Vinnie Mollicone

**PRAYER INTENTIONS:**

Nancy Borreggine, Rosemarie Coreless, Frank Celeste, Mike Jacobs, Sharon DiMatteo, Josephine & Anthony DeCesaris, Carol Vales, Mary Castorina, Irene Ruscigno, Michelina Caputo, Mary Louise Embrey and Sharon Lato.

**OPENING PRAYER:** JoAnn Ward

**FLAG SALUTE:** Vito Potenza

**MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 7TH MEETING:** Secretary Jane Bartolomeo: The Minutes were approved as distributed.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Vito Potenza

1. Vinnie Mollicone has the Super Raffle Tickets for the Grand Lodge, which are \$5.00 each with daily drawings throughout the year beginning in March 2018. Several of our members have been winners over the years.
2. Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, will be the Columbus Day Parade in Baltimore. The festivities will begin with 9:30 AM Mass at St. Leo's Church.
3. At the Executive Meeting, a motion was made that we rename our 3 annual scholarships as Sons of Italy Memorial Scholarships for deceased members of our Lodge, who passed away during the preceding year.
4. During the National Lodge Meeting, the name has been modified to read as Order of Sons & Daughters of Italy in America. As a Lodge, we can choose to use Sons of Italy or Sons and Daughters of Italy, although there is no official change in the Logo. Further information regarding how our Lodge may want to take advantage of this change will be forthcoming.
5. The Grand Lodge Columbus Gala will take place on October 28, 2017 at Martin's East. Vito invited the Membership to attend. Please see Vito for further information.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Tony Parisi

Tony reported that although we are running in the red for the year-to-date, it is expected that we'll be in the black by year-end with a favorable variance to budget. Our bank and investment account balances as of 9/30/2017 are as follows: Operating Account: \$2,265.00, Merchant Account: \$7,113.00, Money Market Account: \$7,704.00, Investment Account: \$27,901.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY:** Rosemarie Pomilla reported the YEAR-TO-DATE balances in the following accounts:

Income:	\$18,515.17
Expenses:	\$19,885.05
Net Income Loss:	\$ 1,369.88

If you need a member reimbursement sheet, please see Rosemarie.

**REPORT OF ATTENDANCE: Mike Corless**

We had 104 in attendance tonight which included 3 guests and 2 new members.

**MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES REPORT: JoAnn Ward**

Get Well Cards were sent to: Vito Potenza and Mike Jacobs

Desserts were provided by: John D'Albora, Daniel Cowell, Max Coschignano, Paula Corso, Adrienne & Frank Celeste, Gina Busby, Felina Breeding, Dottie Tumminello, Guy DiMatteo and Janet Roca

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: SueAnn Baietti**

Thank You Cards were received and read from Mary Ellen Arena and Sharon DiMatteo

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. **Scholarship Committee:** Donna Potenza reported her group will have information to share sometime after the beginning of the new year.
2. **Social Committee:** Mary Ellen
  - a. Crab Feast was very successful with 50 guests and delicious food. We are planning to return next year on Saturday, September 8, 2018 from 1:00 – 4:00. We had a Basket Raffle, thanks to Rosemary & Don Rogers who put it together. We made \$150.00 on the Raffle which was sent to WBOC to help with hurricane disasters in Texas and Florida. Thanks to all for your generosity.
  - b. Hyde Park/Finger Lakes Trip: October 7 – 13<sup>th</sup>. Directions and Itinerary given to those who will be attending.
  - c. October Social Dinner: Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:00 at Nantucket's Restaurant.
  - d. Ovation Dinner Theatre: Saturday, November 11, 2017 at Columbus Hall. Cost \$50 pp, includes Show with Dinner.
  - e. Harrington Casino Trip: Wednesday, November 15, 2017..Cost \$20.00 per person. Reservations required along with payment. Leave St. Andrew's at 10:00am and return by 5:00 pm.
  - f. Christmas Dinner: Sunday December 10, 2017 at the Clarion Hotel in the Crystal Ballroom beginning with check-in at 5:30 PM...dinner at 6:30 PM. Cost \$25.00 per person and \$50.00 for guests. Money due by November 15<sup>th</sup>. See flyer on Website for details and reservation slip.
  - g. New Orleans Trip: April 15-22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018....8 days/7 nights. Cost \$1,500.00 each. Trip Insurance is available at \$50.00 per person, due by December 31, 2017. See the Website for additional information.
3. **Charity Committee:** Mary Castorina
  - a. Checks were sent to our selected charities for this year: Donations were sent in April, May and June 2017. The remainder will be sent out in November and December 2017. New names were added this year, The Riccio Charity Foundation and Joseph House in Salisbury, and will be sent out in 2018. Mary stated that she received a very nice Thank You note from the Shirley Grace Pregnancy Center.

Mary would like to help the Home of the Brave Program as well as supporting the food pantries for Thanksgiving. Members are asked to bring canned foods, tuna fish, oatmeal, etc. to our next meeting for us to donate to food pantries in our area both in Maryland and Delaware. Also, next month, Mary will be making arrangements for our Christmas Giving Event.

**Publicity & Program: Anna Fultz**

- a. Anna brought copies of newspapers she had given information to regarding our SOI activities.
- b. Starr Charities is again collecting donations for Christmas gifts for the veterans. There will be several containers available at the Ocean City Library, the Community Center in Ocean Pines, the Ocean Pines Library, etc. There is a list on the containers of the needed items. The National Guard will collect the items from the containers and make sure they are sent to the troops overseas.
- c. Anna has written a book, "Two Steps Forward", which took 5 years to complete and she will be on tour promoting it. She hopes to have copies available next month to sell. Anna will be travelling to Kentucky as a keynote speaker, as well as meeting with members of the Girl Scouts of America.

**Website:** Tom Pergola reported that New Flyers are available on the Website.

**Helping Hands Committee: Anna Rubino**

Anna provided her cell information to those who need help or knows of someone who needs assistance getting to appointments, needs groceries, etc. so that she or her committee can help them out.

**Historian: Armando & Barb Graziosi**

They have been adding pictures to their albums and welcome people to come and check them out. Anyone wishing to contribute pictures, please let Barb or Armando.

**Fundraising: Sal Castorina reported:**

- a. The boxes of sausages have arrived and can be picked up tonight.
- b. Ovation Dinner Theatre on November 11<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00 PM.: \$50 per person. Dinner provided by Mio Fratello Restaurant with the following menu – Appetizers (bruschetta tray, cheese tray and a vegetable tray). The buffet line will have sliced Roast Beef with Au jus gravy, Chicken Cacciatore, Rigatoni with Larossa sauce, mixed vegetables, Caesar salad and rolls.  
Dessert: Cannoli's and mini cheesecakes. Poster Distribution: Help is needed to display the posters in order to sell 125 tickets.
- c. Make your reservations with Mary Ellen along with the check no later than Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> (November Meeting).
- d. Festival: Kick-off Meeting is Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. At 10:00 AM at St. Andrew's Hall. All team leaders should try to be present, as well as any others who are interested. Sal went over the list of team captains from before to make sure they are still willing to help in 2018. New Captains are needed in Children's Games, the Parking Area, and the Silent Auction.

- e. Tom Pergola will again create the program to be distributed. This year, we are asked to solicit the ads for the program earlier in the Fall instead of during the winter as many businesses are closed during some winter months.

**Membership: Rita Tindall**

- a. It is time to renew memberships, beginning November 2nd. It is important that you include your current e-mail address with your check, so information can be forwarded to you in a timely manner. The deadline for the renewals is January 15, 2018.
- b. This evening we welcomed 2 new members: Mike Roca and Marianne Mihaly. Our guests are Giada Limardi and Julia Rota both from Italy, and Sandi Spadaro.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Report of the Nominating Committee: Sal Castorina read the Slate of Officers to be considered for nomination. Nominations from the floor will also be accepted at the November meeting, after which the elections will take place. Those on the Slate at this time were introduced:

President, Vito Potenza: Vice President, Vinnie Mollicone: Treasurer, Tony Parisi: Recording Secretary, Ethyl Jacobs; Corresponding Secretary, Gina Busby; Financial Secretary, Rosemarie Pomilla; Orator, Joe Zanetti; Trustees: Lucretia Motsco, Ilene Parisi, Tom Pomilla, John Rubino and Frank Tribuno Jr.; 2 Ms. of Ceremony: Jane Bartolomeo and Joan Gentile; and 2 Sgt.-of-Arms, Nick Bartolomeo and Jim Reda.

Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award: Vinnie Mollicone, Chairman of Selection Committee This award is given each year to an individual or a couple who have made contributions to the Lodge and to the Community at large. The qualifications are listed on our Website to aid you in your selection. Also listed are previous winners. Prior nominees may be re-nominated. Please notify Vinnie, Tom Pergola or JoAnn Ward of your nomination. The Committee makes recommendations to the Executive Council who makes the final selection.

The 2018 Budget was approved by the Council. A copy of the Budget is available for your information.

At the September Meeting, Mike Corless made available a jar for donations for the Hurricane victims, which amounted to \$155.00 which will be sent to WBOC Bless the Children Campaign. There will be another jar on the back table for additional donations to be added to the \$155.00. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

Mary Castorina reminded the Membership that there are several Italian cookbooks available to purchase for \$10.00 for Christmas Gifts.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

- a. Vito would like to organize a 9-hole golf outing later this month. There is a list at the front table to sign up for this fun event. Several courses are being considered so sign up for a good time.
- b. Barbara Graziosi mentioned asking members to speak for about 10-15 minutes, about their family history beginning again, at the January Meeting. Please let her know if you wish to speak.
- c. Vito congratulated Nick Bartolomeo, who received an award from Atlantic General Hospital as the first Auxiliary Volunteer ever to receive the "Friend of Nursing" Award. Nick is the Coordinator of the volunteers in the Same Day Surgery Department.

- d. Sad to say, we have to bid good-bye to Giada Limardi who will be returning to Italy. Giada has been a wonderful help with the Italian Students who come here during the summers and we will miss her.
- e. Armando Graziosi invited members to come to Mio Fratello's Restaurant to hear his band starting October 17<sup>th</sup> and Tuesdays thereafter.

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Dottie Tumminello

**50/50 Drawing:** \$73.00 won by Rosemary Gear

**NEXT MEETING WILL BE THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>. DOORS WILL OPEN AT 6:30 pm.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Bartolomeo, Recording Secretary