

NEXT MEETING WILL BE THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017. DOORS WILL BE OPEN AT 6:30 p.m.

**SONS OF ITALY OF OCEAN CITY
LODGE #2474
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
APRIL 6, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President Vito Potenza at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS: Present: Vito Potenza, Vincent Mollicone, Jane Bartolomeo, Tony Parisi, JoAnn Ward, Dottie Tumminello, Bob Arena, Al DiOrio, Ilene Parisi, Tom Pergola, John Rubino, Mike Corless and Sal Castorina. Excused: SueAnn Baietti, Rosemarie and Tom Pomilla.

PRINCIPLES OF THE ORDER: Read by Vincent Millicone

OPENING PRAYER: JoAnn Ward

PRAYER INTENTIONS: Rosemarie Coreless, Sharon Lato, Mary Castorina, and Diana Cowell

FLAG SALUTE: Led by Vito Potenza

MINUTES: The Minutes of the March Meeting were amended as distributed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Tony Parisi reported that we are running in the black thanks to a financially successful Festival and that we are now on sound footing to meet the lodge's budgeted commitments for 2017. Our bank and investment account balances as of 3/31/17 are as follows:

Operating Account	\$ 5,045.00;
Merchant Account	\$24,168.00;
Money Market Account	\$ 5,709.00; and
Investment Account	\$27,813.00.

Our total income for the month was \$15,936.00; our expenses were \$713.00; and Total Income for the month was \$15,223.00. Year to date: \$22,155.00 in Income and \$7488.00 in Expenses for a Net Profit for the year of \$14,666.00.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Vito Potenza

1. Petitions: This is the last night to sign the Petitions for Save Columbus Day. The deadline is April 30, 2017.
2. We will be hosting the Grand Lodge Convention on June 3, 2017 at Columbus Hall. The Delegates will be the President and several of the Council Members.
3. The Grand Lodge Memorial Mass for deceased Maryland Members will be on September 10, 2017 at St. Leo's Church in Baltimore at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will follow at Chiparelli's Restaurant.
4. Access to Membership Lists: Lists including names, addresses and phone numbers will be available upon request by e-mail to Rosemary Gear who will, in turn, send the list by e-mail. If you ask Rosemary, she will give you her e-mail address for this purpose.

REPORT OF ATTENDANCE: Mike Corless reported we have 101 people present, including 5 new members and 2 guests.

MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES REPORT: JoAnn Ward reported Get Well Cards were sent to Edward Delilo, Rosemarie Corless, Frank Celeste, Rita Tindall and Diana Cowell.

Desserts were provided by: Sharon DiMatteo, Lorraine Gualtieri, Roberta Raymond, Marie Grimes, Jo Fortney, Marie Ferguson, Mary Louise Embrey, Phyllis Donohue, Rosemary Gear and Janet Roca.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **Scholarship:** Donna Potenza - Five scholarship applications (2 from Sussex Tech, 1 from Indian River and 2 from Stephen Decatur) have been received and are being considered by the Scholarship Committee. The awardees will be announced by May 2, 2017.
2. **Social:** Please refer to the Website for details on these trips.
 - a. Harrington Casino Trip: Next casino trip will be Wednesday, September 27, 2017.
 - b. April Social Dinner: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at Touch of Italy Restaurant in Ocean City.
 - c. Charleston/Savannah Trip: April 23-29, 2017
 - d. St. Michaels Trip: Wednesday, June 7, 2017.
 - e. Crab Feast: September 9, 2017 at Higgins Crab House North
 - f. Hyde Park/Finger Lakes Trip: October 7-13, 2017
 - g. November Social Dinner: November 1, 2017 at Jules Fine Dining Restaurant.
 - h. Longwood Gardens Christmas Trip: December 5-6, 2017.
 - i. New Orleans Trip: April 15-22, 2018.
3. **Charity:** Mary Castorina
If you have a Charity that you'd like the Committee to consider, please let Mary know. Keep in mind that it has to be a non-profit organization.
4. **Publicity:** Anna Foultz announced she had taken pictures at the Festival to share.
5. **Website:** Tom Pergola reminded everyone that the details of Mary Ellen's trips would be on the website.
6. **Fund Raising:** Sal Castorina and Tom Pergola. The membership gave them a round of applause for all their hard work toward the success of the Festival. Sal thanked all of the many lodge workers who worked the Festival. The money raised from the event came to \$11,283.00. Three Reports were made available to all to see. Sal also mentioned having Oliverio Peppers, Pasta and Cookies left over from the Festival which were for sale.
Tom reminded us that the monies raised by the festival allows the lodge to donate money to charities as well as scholarships.
Janet Ackerson thanked all who helped with the many baskets, ticket sales, etc.
Mary Ellen thanked all who were a part of the worker relief group.
7. **Membership:** Rita Tindall
Five new members signed up tonight; Carol and Joseph Scarpetti, Carol Aikman, Robert Katz, and Richard Marchesiello. Welcome! Also joining us were 2 guests: Debby Haberscorah and Larry Walton.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. We received a request from Worcester Gold for a donation, which was approved by the Council in the amount of \$200. This donation will assist with their Spring Basket Drive.
2. A First Aid Kit and extra band aids were purchased and will be given to Mary Ellen for the April Bus Trip. The Blood Pressure Cuff will be purchased at a later date.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The June Membership Meeting date has been changed. It will be held on June 22, 2017 to include the Italian Students who will have arrived in O.C. by that time. The Meeting will be at 6:00 p.m., including the introduction of the Students followed by a Pot Luck Dinner.
2. George Madden, a member of the F.O.P. Lodge in Bethany, announced they were having a barbeque dinner benefit. Tickets are \$30 each. Dinner is May 4 from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
3. There will be a speaker for the May meeting, Ms. Tammy Patrick from Atlantic General Hospital, who will speak regarding Volunteer opportunities and the groundbreaking of the new Cancer Center scheduled to open in 2018.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Larry Noccolino, Director of the Roland Powell Convention Center, was introduced by Anna Foultz. He discussed his Italian heritage and shared information about the Performing Arts Center. He noted the outstanding performance by the Air Force Band and the Singing Sergeants. He is hoping to attract other Military bands to Ocean City. He also plugged some upcoming performances, (In the Mood, the Rat Pack Review, Under the Street Lamp and the Beach Boys). He spoke of an expansion to the Center in the next couple of years. Mr. Noccolino received an appreciative round of applause for speaking with us.

CLOSING PRAYER: Dottie Tumminello

50/50: \$74.00 was won by Wade Ferguson

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Bartolomeo
Recording Secretary

