

**OCTOBER 6, 2016  
LODGE #2474 SONS OF ITALY  
MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

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

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Vito Potenza

**PRINCIPLES OF THE ORDER:** Read by Vice President Vinnie Mollicone

**MINUTES:** The minutes from the September 1, 2016 Meeting were approved and distributed.

**OPENING PRAYER:** JoAnn Ward

**PRAYER INTENTIONS:** Sharon Lato, Stephanie Donahue's granddaughter, Mary Castorina and Irene Ruscigno

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

1. Received a request from the Commission on Social Justice, Order Sons of Italy in America regarding Save Columbus Day Petition Drive. They are hoping to collect 100,000 signatures to be forwarded to the White House. We have petitions tonight to be signed and copies to take with you for additional signatures. The April 2017 meeting is the deadline for the petitions to be submitted.
2. Our By-Laws received approval from the State Lodge and will be forwarded to the National Orator.
3. Several of our members have been winners in the Grand Lodge Super Raffle.
4. One of our members, Eileen Vitaliti volunteered to serve as State Fund Raising Chair for Cooley's Anemia.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Toni Parisi reported Balances as of 9/30/16.

Balance net of funds held in trust for members at Taylor Bank:	\$ 1,469.82
Checking Account/Merchant – Taylor Bank	\$ 6,339.28
Money Market Account – Taylor Bank	\$ 6,455.49
Investment Account	\$29,128.47
Equity Account	\$45,258.16

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY:** Rosemarie Pomilla – Balances to date:

Income	\$15,957.01
Expenses	\$19,198.93
Operating Loss	\$ 3,231.92

**REPORT OF ATTENDANCE:** Mike Corless

The attendance tonight is 94 with 1 new member and four guests.

**MISTRESS OF CEREMONY:** JoAnn Ward

Thank you to those who brought desserts to the meeting tonight: Sharon DeMatteo, Wally and Lynn Watson, Terry Twardesky, Jo Ann Steward, Anne and Herman Schmid, Lenore

Savage, Carol Snair, Diana Turner, Eileen and Joseph Salafia and Janet Rocca.

Get Well cards went to Felina Breeding, Tom Oneto, Irene Ruscigno and Mary Castorina.  
Sympathy card sent to Pam and Al Di Orio.

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT: Read by Jane Bartolomeo**

1. Thank You note sent by Nick Bartolomeo for receiving a donation for the American Cancer Society, Relay for Life.
2. The Sons of Italy Foundation, they thanked us for our generous contribution to the aid and relief efforts of those involved in the Italian earthquake.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. **Scholarship Committee:** Donna Potenza stated that work on this Committee will not begin until after the first of the year, when applications will be sent to the high schools. Donna introduced her new committee members Lucille Kurtz and Mary Louise Embrey and welcomed them to the team.
2. **Social Committee: Mary Ellen Arena**
  - a. **Crab Feast:** Great time and delicious food, tentatively booked for Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017, with Higgins Crab House.
  - b. **Harrington Casino Trip:** tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, November 2, leaving St. Andrews at 11:30 AM with arrival at Harrington at 1:00 PM. Leaving Harrington at 5:00 PM and return to St. Andrews at 6:30 PM. Need 40 guests to run this trip.
  - c. **New York City Trip on Wednesday November 16<sup>th</sup>** has been cancelled.
  - d. **Social Dinner: November 13, 2016 at Fager's Island** beginning at 5:30 PM, \$22.00 for Prime Rib, \$14.00 for fish. Janet Ackerson is chairing this event, see her for reservations, payment due night of the event.
  - e. **Christmas Dinner – Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016** beginning at 5:30 PM at Dunes Manor Hotel. Cost is \$30 per person, guest cost is \$60 per person. Reservation forms will be available at the SOI meeting with reservation, payment due and menu selection by November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016.
  - f. **Christmas Trip to Washington DC on December 14,15 and 16 – balance of trip is due.** We were able to secure a White House and Capitol Tour, no date yet. On December 8<sup>th</sup> MGM Casino is opening at the National Harbor, so if you would like to play a little slots or shop you will have the opportunity.
  - g. **Spring 2017: Myrtle Beach, Charleston, Savannah, Jekyll Island Tour 4/23 – 4/29.** Cost \$1,000 per person. All inclusive \$200 deposit due by October 15, 2016 and balance of \$800 due by February 15<sup>th</sup>. Insurance forms available cost \$59, with checks payable to Senior Excursions, Inc. Check and completed form due by January 4, 2017 meeting.
  - h. **Finger Lakes – September 2017 – leaving on September 17, 2017.** Trip includes Tour of West Point Military Academy, FDR's home and Eleanor's cottage, National Baseball Hall of Fame, Cooperstown, NY. Tour of Belhurst Castle along with wine tasting before

dinner. Erie Canal Locks narrated tour aboard the Colonial Belle and many other exciting sites. Complete information and cost at next month's meeting and will begin taking reservations.

- i. Social Dinner (January 2017) Date and time to be announced. Sharon DiMatteo will chair this event.

**CHARITY COMMITTEE:** Janet Ackerson for Mary Castorina reported.....

1. Check was sent to the Ocean City Recreation Department for the Golf Tournament
2. If anyone wanted a check sent to a special charity, please submit the name for review to the Charity Committee. Selected charities will be announced at the November meeting. We currently send support to charities in Maryland and Delaware.
3. We will be supporting a needy family for Christmas and Mary will distribute information as to sex, size etc. of the children in the family so we can provide different items they may need.

**PUBLICITY & PROGRAM:** Anna Foulz – Star Charities

Holiday gifts are being collected for our wounded soldiers. Ocean City Library has a list of items that may be donated during October. Toilet paper is #1. There are black containers available for the donations and the National Guard will pick them up and the shipment will be sent overseas at the end of October.

**WEBSITE:** Tom Pergola

Quite a lot of information can be found on the Website.

**DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD:** Vinnie Mollicone, Jim and Deb Reda have formed a committee to consider the selection of a person for this award. They would appreciate having nominations from our members, stating why that person meets the criteria. They will recommend an awardee to the Executive Council at the November Meeting. The Award will be presented at the Christmas Dinner. Vinnie announced that nomination forms and criteria may be found on the Website. Copies will also be available after tonight's meeting. The deadline for submitting names is October 20<sup>th</sup>.

**HISTORIAN:** Barbara & Armando Graziosi

Invited members to review the scrap books containing pictures and articles of events dating back to the early years of the Lodge.

Barbara offered members the opportunity to speak about their ancestors and their travels from the "old country" and life in their new country.

**FUND RAISING:** Sal Castorina

1. Sal went over the menu for the Comedy Theatre Event.
2. Last call for sausage orders, forms are available.
3. Kick-off Meeting for March's festival is October 27, 10:00 at St. Andrews Center.

**MEMBERSHIP: Rita Tindall**

Dues for 2017 are coming up. Members are still \$38, and new members are \$58. The notices will be mailed out the first week of November and payment is due by January 1, 2017. We welcomed our newest member, Janet Roca.

We have 4 guests tonight, Susan Ciamarra, Ron & Mary Ann Tuturice, and Carrie Linch's Assistant, Giada.

**OLD BUSINESS: Vito Potenza**

1. Council reviewed the first draft of the 2017 budget and will vote on the final version at our November Meeting.
2. The "I am an Italian-American" will be included with the Minutes of October.

**Guest Speaker:** Special thank you to Angelo Farone for sharing part of his family history in such an entertaining and informative way.

**CLOSING PRAYER: Dottie Tumminello**

**50/50** Winner Susan Ciamarra won \$72.00

Meeting adjourned at 8:00.

Respectfully submitted

Jane Bartolomeo  
Recording Secretary