

**Sons of Italy Lodge 2474  
General Meeting Minutes  
Thursday June 23, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Vito Potenza called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

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

**PRINCIPLES OF THE ORDER:** Vice President Vincent Mollicone read the Principles of the Order.

**OPENING PRAYER AND PRAYER INTENTIONS:** Stephanie Donahue led us in prayer. Prayer Intentions were for: Frank Tumminello, Mike Jacobs, and Mike Corless, who are recovering from Surgery. Mary Castorina and Sharon Lato who are undergoing Chemotherapy. Palma Devic who is recovering from her fall. Get Well Cards will be sent along with our prayers. A Sympathy Card was sent to Jo Anne Fimmano whose sister passed away.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** President Vito Potenza led us in the Pledge.

**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:** The Minutes of the May Meeting were approved as distributed.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Vito Potenza – News from the Grand Lodge

1. There will be a Memorial Mass held at 11:30 on September 11th for all the deceased members of the Sons of Italy in Maryland, at St. Leo's in Baltimore with lunch following at Chiparelli's restaurant.
2. October 22<sup>nd</sup> will be the Grand Lodge Columbus Day Gala in Cockeysville, Md.
3. We now have the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest membership within the State of Maryland, with 208 members. Little Italy Lodge has the largest, over 400. These figures were compiled by the Grand Lodge as of May 30, 2016.

**There are two pieces of local correspondence to share: (1) Joshua Meeker, a recipient of the Ocean City Lodge Sons of Italy endowed scholarship at Worcester College and sent a thank you note sharing his plans for the future.**

**(2) Catholic Cemeteries sent a notice of the Dedication of the Holy Innocence Monument, taking place on September 11, 2016, after the annual Memorial Mass at Gate of Heaven Cemetery. Mass begins at 4:00. Everybody is invited to attend. Special thanks to Joe Mulholland for helping to get this Monument established.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Vito Potenza presented the Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2016**

<b>Operating Account:</b>	<b>\$5,854.37</b>	<b>Merchant Account:</b>	<b>\$6,735.88</b>
<b>Money Market Account:</b>	<b>\$6,453.35</b>	<b>Investment Account:</b>	<b>\$28,760.69</b>

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT: No Report**

**REPORT OF ATTENDANCE: There were 85 members present including 5 new members, 10 guests, 11 Italian Students and a scholarship awardee and his parents.**

**MISTRESS OF CEREMONY'S REPORT: Many, many thanks to all who so graciously supplied the delicious foods, our members and guests enjoyed.**

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Thank you note from Frank Tumminello for prayers and get well wishes following his surgery.**

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- 1. Scholarship: Donna Potenza introduced Zachery Varrato, one of our scholarship winners and his parents. The other two winners were not able to attend tonight's meeting. Adam Izzo sent a very nice note stating his goals for becoming an engineer, and thanking the Lodge for selecting him. Donna thanked her Committee for all their invaluable assistance in selecting the scholarship winners.**
- 2. Social: Mary Ellen Arena reviewed the Harrington and Dover Trips. Everyone enjoyed themselves. Next year the Harrington Trips will end in March.**

- a. **The Washington Nationals/Orioles Game still needs additional sign ups. If you know of anyone who would like to join us please call Mary Ellen at 410-250-0048.**
- b. **Crab Feast: Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 4:00 at Higgins Crab House North...Cost \$40 per person...AUCE Crab and Shrimp including beer/wine & soft drinks. See flyer for complete menu and event details. Reservation is required with payment due August 1, 2016.**
- c. **Columbus Day Dinner: TBD...October 2016**
- d. **Social Dinner: TBD. Will resume in November. Janet Ackerson will chair this event.**
- e. **Jerry's Gourmet Trip – Tentative dates - November 15 or 16, 2016**
- f. **Christmas Dinner: Sunday, December 4, 2016 beginning at 5:30 PM at Dunes Manor Hotel.**
- g. **Christmas Trip to Washington, DC, December 14,15,16 (3 days and 2 nights at the Gaylord Resort at the National Harbor. Cost \$700 per person. Flyer has details. Reservation & Deposit due June 30, 2016. Trip balance due by September 15, 2016.**
- h. **Trips for 2017: (1) Myrtle Beach, Charleston, Savannah, Jekyll Island Tour. April 23<sup>rd</sup> to April 29, 2017 details to follow. (2) Finger Lakes Trip for September 2017. Details to follow.**

**1. Charity: No Report**

**2. Publicity and Programs: Anna Foulz**

**Anna provided a flyer inviting SOI Members and friends to attend the Annual Western Night at the Clubhouse at the Ocean Pines Racetrack on Thursday July 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM. The entertainment is on the second floor with one of our Lodge members, Paul Mazzei, included in the program. Anna shared the success of the Veteran's Program, sponsored by Star Charities. Donations for the Veterans included: Cash, checks, gift cards and other useful items. Anna was grateful for the items she was able to purchase with the funds provided by the Sons of Italy.**

**3. Membership: Barbara Graziosi and Joann Ward filled in for Rita Tindall and welcomed our new members: Nancy & Peter Sorge,**

**Rosemary Profili, Don & Rosemary Rogers. We had 11 guests: Allan Cosschigano, Archangelo Reda, Melissa Salazar, Joe Zorback, Carrie Lynch, Giada Limardi, Sharon & Edwin Smith, Fran Knox, Natalie Hemphill and Al Carmenine. There were 11 Italian Students and one scholarship winner: Zack Verrato.**

- 4. Fundraising: No Report**
- 5. Website: No Report**
- 6. Helping Hands: No Report**
- 7. Historian: No Report**

**SPECIAL AWARD FOR ANNA FOULTZ: Anna was selected to receive the Ameritan Award for 2016 by the Grand Lodge. Thanks to Barbara Graziosi and Sharon DiMatteo for helping to draft the nomination and Susanne Palmara for her help at the Lodge Meeting prior to the vote. Anna will be presented her award on Saturday, October 22 at the Grand Lodge Gala and Award Presentation in Pikesville, Md. All are welcome to attend. Tickets are \$75 per person. Please sign up if you'd like to attend. The Event runs from 7:00 to 11:30 PM.**

**INTRODUCTION OF OUR SCHOLARSHIP WINNER: Vito Potenza welcomed Zack Verrato and his parents Bonnie & Tony Verrato. Zack had previously sent the Lodge a Thank You note for choosing him for the award. Tonight he gave an excellent overview of his plans for college which will be at The Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania.**

**THE ITALIAN STUDENTS WERE INTRODUCED BY CARRIE LYNCH, THEIR SPONSOR.**

**CLOSING PRAYER: Dottie Tumminello**

**50/50: Max Coschignano won \$72.00**

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> AT 7:00 PM. Doors will not be opened until 6:30 pm.**

**ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM followed by a Pot Luck Dinner**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Jane Bartolomeo, Recording Secretary**