



P.O. Box 4596, Ocean City, Maryland 21843-4596

www.sonsofitalyoceancity.com

Newsletter Email: SOI2474@aol.com

Newsletter Editor: **Sue Ann Baietti**

February 2017

The President's Message

Sisters and Brothers,

The February Lodge meeting had another great turnout (86 members) and a very entertaining speaker. Anna Foulz, our Publicity and Program Chair, invited Ocean City Mayor Rick Meehan to address our group. Mayor Meehan offered interesting insights about Ocean City and the greater OC area. He also responded to questions from the Lodge members. Thank you, Anna.

Mike Lato was also at the meeting. His wife Sharon has been on our prayer list since last spring. Mike reports that things have finally turned around for Sharon, she is gaining weight and her recovery is progressing. He thanked us for all the prayers and cards noting that they helped get him and Sharon through those difficult months.

Our prayers do work so please remember: Mike Jacobs (home recovering from complicated hernia surgery), Sharon Lato, Mary Castorina, Irene Ruscigno, Felina Breeding and Lorraine Gualtieri's daughter, Maria Fortuna, who was rushed to the hospital in Pennsylvania last week.

Meeting highlights:

The Trustees finished the Fourth Quarter 2016 Financial Review and reported that our finances are in order; the Executive Council approved a Trip Liability Waiver and Emergency Contact form to be used for all Lodge sponsored trips (a copy of the form was emailed to members); and the SOI Grand Lodge of Maryland will hold its biennial convention in Ocean City at Columbus Hall on Saturday, June 3, 2017.

Remember that the Lodge will be walking in the OC St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 11. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate. And, of course, if you have not volunteered for the St Joseph's Day Festival on March 18, contact Mary Ellen Arena.

Please check the Lodge's website for more detailed information on all our activities.

Finally, Vice President Vinnie Mollicone will preside over the March 2 meeting. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Festival on March 18.

God bless you and keep you safe.

Ciao,

Vito

President

Vito Potenza

(410) 641-8046

Immediate Past President

Sal Castorina

(302) 436-2146

Vice President

Vincent Mollicone

(443) 664-5940

Recording Secretary

Jane Bartolomeo

(302) 436-8208

Corresponding Secretary

Sue Ann Baietti

(302) 945-4237

Treasurer

Tony Parisi

(302) 829-1368

Financial Secretary

Rosemarie Pomilla

(302) 436-4221

Orator

Sebastian (Bob) Arena

(410) 250-0048

Trustees

Al DiOrio

(302) 430-1004

Ilene Parisi

(302) 829-1368

Tom Pergola

(302) 541-4737

Tom Pomilla

(302) 436-4221

John Rubino

(302) 436-6040

Membership

The fees for memberships are \$38.00 per person for renewals and \$58.00 for new members (first time only). Membership renewals are past due and payable immediately, if not members will be taken off the rolls. Contact Rita Tindall, Membership Chair at (410) 208-9698 for more information and/or questions.

Celebrating Their Birthdays

Those celebrating their special day in March: **March 5: Nathan Naddeo; March 6: Vito Potenza; March 12: Bonnie Oliverio; March 17: Palma Devic; March 18: Judith Zanetti; March 22: Ethel Jacobs, Robert J. Frost; March 23: Janet Ackerson; March 24: Joe Mulholland; March 25: Anthony Fimmano; March 28: Angela Rosetti**

Ailing and Suffering

If you know of anyone who is sick, had surgery or recently has lost a loved one, please call JoAnn Ward at (302) 524-8161. Card(s) will be sent.

50/50 Winner  Penny Pararello (Guest) \$71.00

Mary Ellen's Special Events Corner

HARRINGTON CASINO TRIP - Wednesday, March 29, 2017. We are on the road to Harrington Casino leaving St. Andrews's Parish Center at 10:00 AM (bus will be there at 9:30 AM for boarding) and arriving at Harrington at 11:30 AM. We will be returning to Ocean City at 5:00 PM. Cost is \$20.00 per person (pp) and includes: \$15.00 Free Play Card, \$7.00 credit toward Buffet Lunch, Motor Coach Transportation and Driver's Gratuity. Reservations with payment due.

CHARLESTON/SAVANNAH TRIP - April 23-29, 2017. Last call for taking out insurance on this trip. Cost is \$59.00 pp. Also, a reminder that Final Payment of \$800.00 pp. is due on February 15, 2017, which can be brought to the February SOI Meeting. If you are unable to attend, be sure to mail payment to Mary Ellen. Itineraries and luggage tags will be given out at the April meeting. We have 3 seats available due to cancellations. If you know of anyone who may wish to join us have them contact me.

MARDI GRAS DINNER - We will be having a Mardi Gras Dinner at the Clarion Hotel on Wednesday, February 22, 2017, beginning at 5:00 PM with a Social Hour in the Horizon's Bar with Happy Hour Drink Prices until 7:00 PM. We will be ordering off the "50% Menu" for entrées only. Choice of 6 dinner entrées will include a small salad. All bills will include 20% gratuity and 6.5% Food Tax. If you wish to be seated as a group, you will need to sign up as a *group seating*. Brian Clark will be the entertainment. Please sign up with Mary Ellen. We have 65 slots. Everyone is invited to wear a Masquerade Mask. A prize will be presented for the best mask.

APRIL SOCIAL DINNER - Our "Thank You" dinner is scheduled for Tuesday, April 18, 2017, at the Touch of Italy Restaurant in Ocean City beginning at 5:30 PM. Vito and Donna Potenza will chair this event, and Mary Ellen Arena will be handling the reservations. Sign-up sheet available with 65 guest slots.

Mistresses of Ceremony

JoAnn Ward

(302) 524-8161

Dottie Tumminello

(410) 250-3400

Sergeant-at-Arms

Mike Corless

(410) 208-3064

Committees:

Charity

Mary Castorina, Chair

(302) 436-2146

Fundraising

Sal Castorina, Chair

(302) 436-2146

Helping Hands

Anna Rubino, Chair

(302) 436-6040

Historians

Barb and Armando Graziosi

(302) 841-9672

Membership

Rita Tindall, Chair

(410) 208-9698

Program

Anna Foultz, Chair

(410) 641-7667

Public Relations

Anna Foultz, Chair

(410) 641-7667

Scholarship

Donna Potenza, Chair

(410) 641-8046

Social

Mary Ellen Arena, Chair

(410) 250-0048

Web Site:

Tom Pergola / John Rubino

(302) 541-4737 / (302) 436-6040

Newsletter Editor

Sue Ann Baietti

(302) 945-4237

SOI2474@aol.com

www.sonsofitalyocencity.com

Newsletter

HYDE PARK/FINGER LAKES TRIP - October 7-13, 2017, 7 days, 6 nights. Cost \$1200.00 pp (Double Occupancy); \$425.00 Single Cost Supplement. 6 Nights' Accommodations: 3 nights in Hyde Park and 3 Nights in Finger Lakes Area; 6 Breakfasts and Dinners are also included with one dinner at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park and one at Belhurst Castle in the Finger Lakes. Guided Tours include: West Point, the Culinary Institute, the Roosevelt Mansion and Museum, Valkill Estate and Vanderbilt Mansion. We will also take a boat excursion on the Hudson River and take an Erie Canal Lock Cruise aboard the Colonial Belle. Admission to Baseball Hall of Fame is also included. Reservation and Deposit of \$500.00 pp is required by April 15, 2017, with balance due by August 1, 2017. Insurance will be available. Bus seating based on reservation date. After April 15, trip will be open to non-members.

St. Joseph Festival News and Update

Just a few reminders on dates and deadlines: **From Sal Castorina and Tom Pergola**

The program ads, patron and In Memorial submissions have to be in **by Friday, February 10**. This also includes the list of Silent Auction and Basket Raffle donors.

Baskets for the Basket Raffle will be assembled at St. Andrews Hall on **Friday March 10** beginning at **10 AM**.

Sauce and meatball cooking will be **Wednesday March 15 at St. Andrews Hall beginning at 9 AM**.

Thursday, March 16, is Hall set up day and Friday, March 17, is Station set up day both days beginning at 9 AM. Help on Thursday is more than welcomed since that is the heaviest work day of the two. Team Captains need to ensure that their stations are set up Friday and everything is priced and ready to go.

Watch your emails as Tom will be sending our copies of your signs for your verification and to confirm the quantity needed.

The group photo of all workers will be at **10 AM** on the day of the Festival. Don't forget to wear your red logo tee shirts (short sleeve or long sleeve) or a plain red tee shirt with black slacks and your name tag.

From Janet Ackerson: Thank you to those who brought gift donations to the meeting. If you wish to donate wine, liquor, baskets, and new and unused gift items, please bring your items to the March meeting. The gift baskets will be assembled at **10:00 a.m. on Friday, March 10 at St. Andrew's Hall**. For any questions or if you wish to help, please contact Janet Ackerson at 302-988-8109 or janet.ackerson@gmail.com

Mark Your Calendars

Thursday, March 2, 2017, next meeting at Columbus Hall.

5:30 PM Executive Council Meeting and 7:00 PM General Meeting

Special Announcements from the Sons of Italy

The Grand Lodge is holding the State Convention to be here at Columbus Hall on June 3, 2017. We will be looking for volunteers for this event.