

Sons and Daughters of Italy

Ocean City Lodge #2474

General Meeting Minutes May 2, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the President, Sue Ann Baietti, at 7:02 PM.

ROLL CALL of OFFICERS: Donna Potenza called the names of the officers. All were present except for Rose Madden and Mark Silvestri who are excused.

PRINCIPLES of the Order: Barbara Graziosi read the Principles of the Order.

PRAYER INTENTIONS: Barbara Graziosi read the prayer intention list for the sick and the deceased: Jude DeLucco, Dottie Tumminello, Lorraine Gualtieri, Ray D'Antuono, Ethel and Mike Jacobs, Anna Rubino, Paul Harman, Frank Orobono, George Ward and Wally Watson.

OPENING PRAYER: Read by Lynn Watson.

FLAG SALUTE: Sue Ann Baietti asked the assembly present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES of the LAST MEETING: April minutes were distributed by email. Motion to approve made by Andy Maggio and a second by Jean Temple.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: National moving towards I-membership. Janet investigated how Annapolis Lodge uses it. The President of Annapolis Lodge will do a zoom call to show how it is used in Annapolis. No decision has been made for our Lodge.

TREASURER'S REPORT: No report.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT: No report.

TRUSTEES' REPORT: No report.

REPORT OF ATTENDANCE: Tom Pomilla and Joe Tamberino reported 93 members in attendance and 2 guests.

MISTRESS of CEREMONIES: Jane Bartolomeo thanked the bakers who brought food to the meeting: Wanda Martellini, Deb Reda, Janet Roca, Rosemary Rogers, Mary Loeloff and Lucille Kurtz. Jane explained that when calls and/or emails are

sent requesting refreshments, she does not get responses. Please let her know if you are or are not able to provide refreshments when asked. Last month out of 8 calls, only three people brought in refreshments.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Janet Ackerson read thank you notes from Wally Watson, Rick Buccheri, Joanne Steward, Jude DeLucco, and Ethel Jacobs. An Easter card to Lodge members was received from Felina Breeding. Palma Devic has requested prayers.

#### STANDING COMMITTEES REPORTS

SCHOLARSHIP: Scholarship awardees have been selected. We received 5 applications. The three top scoring applicants are all from Stephen Decatur High School. On May 16, 2024, Janet and Bob Ackerson will present certificates to them at Stephen Decatur awards night. You will meet the awardees at the June meeting. The Executive Council, on recommendation from the festival chairs, approved increasing the amount from \$2,000 to \$3,000 for each.

SOCIAL: Mary Ellen Arena reported on the following:

May 23<sup>rd</sup>: Shorebirds Game 7:05 PM. Picnic area available 1 hour before the game for AUCE and for 1 hour during the game. \$31pp. An elevator is available. Gates open at 6:00 PM. Can contact Jennifer at the Shorebirds if you decide to join us. You will pay at will call window. Call one week before.

June 29<sup>th</sup>: 3:00 PM show at Milton Theatre for Lights Out: Frankie Valle and the Four seasons Tribute. The show is SOLD OUT. Dinner at Iron Hill Brewery in Rehoboth. Cash recommended. Tables of 4, 6 or 8 with one check and 22% gratuity. If you are interested in going to the dinner, contact Mary Ellen by email NLT June 1, 2024.

June 27, 2024: Italian Students' Welcome Dinner 5-8 PM. Dinner catered by Mio's. Sign-up sheet.

September 7<sup>th</sup>: Higgins North Crab and Shrimp Feast. 1-4 PM. Cost is \$55pp. Payment NLT August 1, 2024. Will be collected at the June meeting.

New Hampshire Trip is cancelled.

October Social Dinner: Thursday, October 17, 2024, at Carrabba's in West Ocean City. Our hosts are Richard and Pat Marchesiello. Sign up at the June meeting. Further details at the September meeting.

Christmas Dinner: December 15, 2024, Grand Hotel . More details to follow.

Christmas Show: Sold out

Bocce: Any interest, see Mary Louise Embrey,

See the newsletter for full details.

CHARITY: No report. Sue Ann called Judy Zanetti forward to tell her that the Mary Castorina Charity Fund budget for 2024 was approved, on recommendation from the Festival chairs, from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

HELPING HANDS: Jude DeLucco. No report

PUBLICITY AND PROGRAMS: Ed Pinto sent a report stating that a picture appears on page 25 of the Italian America magazine of our newly installed officers. Il Giornale will have a festival feature in the summer issue.

WEBSITE: Tom Pergola No report.

Fundraising: Vito Potenza and Moe Delcher reported that the festival net is \$26,194. \$6,500 will be given to St. Luke's/St. Andrew's for their share in the partnership. This leaves a balance of \$19,700.

MEMBERSHIPS: Jo Alexander called on guests to introduce themselves: Al and Jo Fracchia, Anna Fernecian and Norma Jean and John Curreri

OLD BUSINESS: Vinnie will continue to be the contact for Lodge shirts, hats, and tote bags.

NEW BUSINESS: Presentations:

Mary Louise Embrey introduced us to the important work of the organization called Service Dogs Saving Lives. This group provides training for puppies to be placed with veterans who are having suicidal thoughts. In this area, two puppies have been placed and are credited with saving two lives. Mary Louise explained a chapter was started in Florida by her brother who lost a son to suicide. There will be a fund raiser on June 7, 2024, from 2-5 PM to raise awareness and money. It

will be held at Mariner's Hope Center, Bethel Church in Ocean View, DE. See Mary Louise for a flyer and more details.

Relay For Life: Nick Bartolomeo, a cancer survivor and a participant in the Relay For Life, introduced Dawn Hodge who spoke to us on the beginning of this event and the details of the activities. The event will be held on June 15, 2024, at Windmill Creek Vineyard and Winery from 4-9 PM. The ongoing theme is Celebrate, Remember and Fight Back.

Mike Lato has concerns about membership dues and a letter he received from the State Lodge with a confusing explanation. Sue Ann will look into this.

Closing Prayer: Read by Barbara Graziosi

50/50: \$95 won by Cathy Russo

Meeting Adjourned: Motion made by Janet Ackerson with second by Lucille Kurtz at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Potenza, Recording Secretary