

**June 2025 Newsletter**  
**Sons and Daughters of Italy Lodge #2474**  
**P.O. Box 4596, Ocean City, Maryland 21843-4596**  
**www.sonsofitalyoceancity.com**



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

What a wonderful evening celebrating our three scholarship winners! As your president, I am so proud to witness this inspiring event. The recipients of our three \$3,000 Memorial Scholarships were Joseph Michael Anthony Morelli, Brooke Christine Berquist and Ava Marie Snelsire.

Mary Louise Embrey shared information about her wonderful charity for service dogs to support our beloved veterans and Judy Zanetti, Chairperson of our Charity Committee, presented a check for two hundred dollars to support this worthy cause.

We are truly looking forward to meeting the Italian students at their dinner. What a delight it is to meet such bright and inspiring young people, and to celebrate their achievements and journeys. Moments like these remind us of the power of cultural exchange, learning, and the promise of future generations.

**Subject: Still Seeking a Social Chairperson**

We are still in need of a Social Chairperson. One of our members has graciously stepped forward to assist, but she does not wish to take on the role of chairperson. Please understand that without a Social Chairperson, our fun events and gatherings will, unfortunately, have to come to an end. These events are a highlight for many of us, and we would love to see them continue!

The good news is that Mary Ellen is willing to support anyone—or a team—who is interested in stepping up, and she has all the necessary contacts and detailed event lists to make the transition as smooth as possible.

**OFFICERS:**

**President**

Sue Ann Baietti  
551-404-5592

**Immediate Past President**

Vincent Mollicone  
443-664-5940

**Vice President**

Barbara Graziosi  
(302) 841-9672

**Recording Secretary**

Donna Potenza  
(301) 785-2419

**Corresponding Secretary**

Janet Ackerson  
302-228-1423

**Treasurer**

Mark Silvestri  
(410) 913-4093

**Financial Secretary**

Rosemarie Pomilla  
302-519-3641

**Orator**

Rose Madden  
(703) 350-7398

If you have ever thought about getting more involved, this is a great opportunity. Please consider volunteering—we need you!

See you in September.

Ciao,  
Sue Ann Campo-Baietti, President

### **VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:**

We will have copies of our “Recipes from our Italian Kitchens” cookbooks at each meeting starting in the fall. If you would like to purchase one, they are \$10 each. They make great gifts!

Barbara Graziosi, Vice President

### **IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:**

If you wish to purchase our logo shirts, hats and tote bags, please contact Vinnie Mollicone.

### **NAMETAGS:**

We would appreciate it if everyone would please purchase a nametag so members can be easily identified. Lodge nametags are \$14.50. To order, please see Tom Pomilla or Joe Tamberino at the monthly meeting.

### **SICK AND DISTRESSED:**

We are requesting prayers for the deceased members who have gone before us and for the recovery of all those who have been ill, had surgery or were injured, including the following: Mary DeCarlo, Palma Devic, Elaine Ferguson, Lorraine Gualtieri, Rose Profili, Anna Rubino and Dottie Tumminello. If you know of any member who is ill, had surgery, or recently lost a loved one, please call Jane Bartolomeo at 302-436-8208 so she can send a card from our Lodge. Please send your prayer requests, with the consent of the recipient or their family, to [Janet.Ackerson@gmail.com](mailto:Janet.Ackerson@gmail.com).

### **TRUSTEES:**

Rich Baietti. (302) 945-4237  
Al D’Annunzio, 302-841-3745  
Morrell Delcher, 410-746-1611  
Mike Quinn, (302) 524-8415  
Ed Smith, 703-946-5068

### **MISTRESSES OF CEREMONY:**

Jane Bartolomeo,  
302-436-8208  
Lynne Watson, (302) 537-5272

### **SERGEANTS-AT-ARMS:**

Tom Pomilla, 410-322-4990  
Joe Tamberino, (443) 641-3395

### **COMMITTEES:**

Charity  
Judy Zanetti, Chair  
302-988-8012

Fundraising  
Vito Potenza, 301-643-2106

Helping Hands  
Jude DeLucco, Chair  
443-783-3317

Historian  
Ed Pinto  
703-901-5544

## **MEMBERS CELEBRATING JUNE/JULY/AUGUST BIRTHDAYS:**

**We wish a very Happy Birthday to :** **June:** 6/3-Stephanie Donahue; 6/6-Earlene Bradford; 6/8-Mindy Nardone; 6/11-Toni Coffland; 6/12-Robert Miles; 6/15-Ken Nittoly; 6/21-Frank Orobono, Tony Parisi; 6/23-Ray D'Antuono, Sandra McGrath; 6/25-Lillian Miller, George Ward, Rita Barger; 6/30-Elaine Ferguson; **July:** 7/5-Francine Boccuti; 7/8-Dotti Pinto; 7/9-Tonya Amber, Armando Graziosi; 7/11-Lynn Callo; 7/12-Mary Loeloff, Terry Wright; 7/14-Mary DeCarlo; 7/15-Eileen Salafia; 7/16-Anthony Rinaldi, Alison Iavarone; 7/18-John Rubino; 7/19-JoAnn Topolski; 7/23-Michael Blair, Rose Leister; 7/23-Bernice Harman, Guy DiMatteo; 7/28-Marie Grimes; 7-31-Al DiOrio; **August:** 8/1-Vinnie Cappello; 8/2-Vicky a'Becket; 8/3-Denise Buccheri; 8/8-Judy Mays; 8/15-Joseph Schwartz; 8/16-Sandra Berry, Sharon DiMatteo, Marti Quinn, Frances Shott; 8/17-Al D'Annunzio, Aaron Morgan; 8/19-Barbara Graziosi, Olga Masciarelli; 8/20-Gina Busby, Sharon Smith; 8/23-Grace Jenkins, Rose Madden; 8/25-Carol Snair; 8/29-Karolyn Pergola.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS:**

A news release on our scholarship winners has been sent to the local media. Photos and a news release about our Italian student dinner will be taken, written, and sent to the local media. When our charity committee meets and informs me of the decisions about donations, a news release will be written and sent to local media outlets. (It would be nice if we spent about \$100 and had a ceremonial check produced for a photo of Charity Committee members holding it with the total amount we give to charities noted, as well as for the Scholarship Committee). Have a good summer all.

Ed Pinto, Chairperson

## **HELPING HANDS COMMITTEE:**

If you need any help with picking up groceries, a ride to appointments, a meal, or, if you wish to join this committee to help others, please contact Jude DeLucco, Chairperson.

### Membership

Joan DeMarco, Chair  
410-250-0963

### Public Relations

Ed Pinto  
703-901-5544

### Scholarship

Donna Potenza, Chair  
410-641-8046

### Social

Mary Ellen Arena, Chair  
410-250-0048

### Website:

Tom Pergola, 302-541-4737  
John Rubino, 302-436-6040

### Newsletter Editor:

Janet Ackerson  
302-228-1423

*Editor's note: please send me any changes to your contact information. Thanks!*

### NEXT MEETING:

**Knights of Columbus Hall  
99<sup>th</sup> St. & Coastal Hwy  
Thursday  
September 4, 2025**

**5:30 p.m. Executive Council  
7:00 p.m. General Meeting**

## SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:

It was a great honor to recognize the hard work of the scholarship committee and our three outstanding recipients of the Ocean City Lodge Sons and Daughters of Italy Memorial Scholarship at our June 5th meeting. The committee members are Bob and Janet Ackerson, Moe and Jean Delcher, Jude Delucco, and Joe and Margaret Giacomponello.

The recipients of \$3,000 each are Brooke Berquist and Ava Snelsire from Stephen Decatur High School and Joseph Morelli from Delmar High School.

Thank you to our Lodge brothers and sisters for their fundraising efforts which made these scholarships possible.

Donna Potenza, Chairperson



Donna Potenza and Sue Ann Baietti presenting our scholarship certificate to Christine Berquist, along with her mother.



Donna Potenza and Sue Ann Baietti presenting our scholarship certificate to the parents of Ava Snelsire in her absence.



The Scholarship Committee: Bob & Janet Ackerson, Jude Delucco, Margaret & Joe Giacomponello, Donna Potenza, Jean & Moe Delcher

## SOCIAL EVENTS: 2025

**Update: SDOI Night at Shorebirds Game was on Wednesday, May 14, 2025** with 50+ guests. It was a fun evening with good food and socialization. The Shorebirds won both games of a double header, and the weather was perfect for baseball. Due to the weather prediction, we were upgraded to Hard Ball Café, from the Picnic Deck. That “teaser” spoiled the group so now they want to return to the same seats next year!

**June Event – Italian Students’ Welcome Dinner:** June 26, 2025, at 5:30 pm in Columbus Hall. This event will be catered by Mac’s Catering Company in Ocean View, DE. There is a sign-up sheet for reservations.

**June Event – Evening at Windmill Winery in Berlin, MD – Friday, June 27, 2025, 5:00-8:00 pm;** An evening of socialization. Wine/ beverages and food available from food trucks and there will be live Music. We will be sitting as a group and you should bring your own chair. There is a sign-up sheet for reservations. (Need to give the venue count of attendees expected).

**August Event: Beach Boys Tribute Show at the Milton Theatre in Milton, DE. on Wednesday, August 27, 2025 at 2:00 PM Matinee performance.** Cost of ticket: \$38.-\$45.00 per person. A dinner will be arranged for afterwards if agreeable to everyone. Sign Up sheet for reservations. Will notify everyone interested by email, with ticket cost and other information. Requested 50 tickets to be held.

**Crab Feast – Saturday, September 6, 2025 –** Higgins Crab House/North from 1:00-4:00 PM. Cost: \$55 per person for members and \$60 per person for guests. AUCE Menu: Steamed Crabs, Steamed Shrimp, Fried Chicken, French Fries, Cole Slaw, Corn on the Cob, Hush Puppies, Dessert, Domestic Draft Beer, Wine, Soda/Ice Tea/Coffee. Reservations are required and payment is due by June 15<sup>th</sup>. Checks payable to Sons of Italy Ocean City and mailed to: Mary Ellen Arena, 13508 Yellow Banks Court, Ocean City, MD, 21842. Check out the flyer on our website.

**October Event – Social Event at Touch of Italy Restaurant, 66<sup>th</sup> Street & Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD; Date TBD;** The dinner is hosted by Vito & Donna Potenza. More details to follow.

**Christmas Dinner - Wednesday, December 10, 2025** at Cripple Creek Country Club in Ocean View, DE. More details to follow.

**Christmas Show Trip - Wednesday, December 17, 2025** to the American Music Theatre in Lancaster, PA.; 3:00 PM show “DECK THE HALLS”—Dinner to follow – Restaurant TBD. COST: \$165.00 PP. This trip is sold out, but we are accepting names for a waitlist. Final payment for attendees due by June 15, 2025. Checks payable to: Sons of Italy Ocean City, mail to Mary Ellen Arena, 13508 Yellow Banks Court, Ocean City, MD, 21842.

THAT’S ALL FOLKS! – Mary Ellen Arena, Chairperson

### **CHARITY COMMITTEE REPORT:**

At the June meeting, a check for \$200 was given to Mary Louise Embrey for the Service Dogs Saving Lives Charity Organization. Please be sure to attend their June 20<sup>th</sup> fundraising event at the Rollins Community Center and at the Wheelhouse Restaurant in Lewes, DE. A flyer is attached with further information. Judy Zanetti, Chairperson

### **LODGE MEMBER’S NOTICE:**

Widow/Widowers Support Group, Ocean Pines Area – Our sister, Jo Alexander, who recently Passed, was the leader of this group. At Jo’s request, Al Carmenini will now be the leader. This multi-parish group meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 2PM in the Ocean Pines area.

Our mission is to host and lead a support group to help guide and comfort widowed Christians. Prayer, discussion, sharing, and social support are the keys for success. Some of the group also meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month for lunch and conversation at a local restaurant. Contact Mrs. Jerry Annis 410-352-339 or Al Carmenini 410-600-0549.

**EXCERPTS FROM OUR BY-LAWS – DUTIES OF OUR OFFICERS:** Each month a description of one of our Executive Council officers will be included in the newsletter.

**“Section 8: Treasurer**

1. He/she is the custodian of the Funds of the Local Lodge.
2. He/she receives, at the end of each meeting, all money collected by the Financial Secretary who issues proper receipts for cash.
3. He/she records in and keeps up to date the Cash Book of the Local Lodge in which he/she shall register monthly income and disbursement of the Local Lodge.
4. He/she, not later than three (3) days after each meeting, deposits the funds received by him/her in the accounts opened in the Name of the Local Lodge.
5. He/she issues and signs checks upon receipt of Proper Order of Payment and consigns them to the Financial Secretary for delivery to the payee.
6. The withdrawal of any funds from the Local Lodge’s Investment Account must be approved by the Local Lodge’s Executive Council.”

**OUR SONS & DAUGHTERS OF ITALY HISTORICAL HERITAGE:**

The following is one of the many accomplishments of the Order Sons & Daughters of Italy throughout our organization’s existence:

“It was the Grand Lodges of the Order: Alabama, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Quebec, Rhode Island, Virginia, West Virginia, and the Northwest and their filial lodges and the subordinate lodges under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Lodge in Washington, D.C., Slidell, LA; Flint, MI; Norman, OK; and Racine, WI that have given hundreds of thousands of dollars to our young people in scholarships, that have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for American Heart Association, Cooley’s Anemia, American Cancer Society, The Kidney Foundation, The National Foundation for Ileitis and Colitis, Muscular Dystrophy Society and many, many more.”

From: *The Order Sons of Italy in America 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Centennial Journal: The Century of Progress 1905-2005*

Janet Ackerson, Corresponding Secretary

