

**October 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,

President's Message

It was so nice to see all of your smiling faces at our meeting! Please mark your calendars for the St. Joseph's Day Festival on March 21, 2026. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year, and we need all hands-on deck. Your help is essential to making it a success!

Our Historian, Ed Pinto, is asking for a volunteer to assist him with scrapbooking our events and photographs. Please see the great explanation of what the role entails below under Public Relations. If you have any questions or are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Ed Pinto directly, His email is [airpinto293@gmail.com](mailto:airpinto293@gmail.com) or (703) 901-5544.

At the November meeting, we will hold our election. Please see the list in this Newsletter of those running for our Executive Council.

Lastly, at the November meeting, our Charity Committee will have the Christmas balls ready for the families we are donating to. Please make sure to pick up one or more of these items to help spread holiday cheer.

We love making Christmas special for these families—but we can't do it without your help. This lodge has always been so generous, and that's why I'm so proud of each and every one of you!

Ciao,  
Sue Ann Campo-Baietti, President

**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

## **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Even though our Lodge has nominees for all our officers, we would gladly accept nominations for any position. If interested, please call me before our November meeting at 302-841-9672. Each position's description is in our By-Laws on our website.

Nominees for the next two year's Executive Council officers will be voted on at the November 6th meeting. The nominees are:

President: Sue Ann Baietti

Vice President: Barbara Graziosi

Recording Secretary: Donna Potenza

Treasurer: Mark Silvestri

Corresponding Secretary: Janet Ackerson

Financial Secretary: Paul Scalice

Orator: Rose Madden

Trustees: Al D'Annunzio, Rich Baietti, Vito Potenza,  
Mo Delcher, Rich Buccheri

Mistresses of Ceremony: Jane Bartolomeo, Lynne Watson

Sergeants at Arms: Joe Tamburino, Bob Ackerson

Nominations are requested for the Distinguished Citizen of the Year. The criteria and form are located on our website. Please mail your nomination(s) to Barb Graziosi at 29184 Shady Creek Ln, Dagsboro DE 19939 or scan and attach the form to an email to Barb at [abgraz@aol.com](mailto:abgraz@aol.com).

The 2026 Grand Lodge Super Raffle tickets are now available at \$25 each. They can be purchased at our meetings. Drawings start in March 2026.

The November meeting will be the last meeting to purchase our cookbooks before Christmas. They are \$10 each and make great economical gifts!

Barbara Graziosi, Vice President

## **IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:**

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

### **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

## FINANCIAL SECRETARY

This is a reminder that our annual dues will remain \$40 for renewal starting October 15, 2025. The form is on our website.

Rosemarie Pomilla, Financial Secretary

## 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.

## 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.

## CHARITY COMMITTEE

The following 2025 charities designated by the Charity Committee to be given donations were approved by the membership at our General Assembly Meeting:

### 2025 SPRING DONATIONS:

Alzheimer's Association (*National OSIA*); Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation for Autism (*National OSIA*); Cooley's Anemia Foundation (*National OSIA*); Garibaldi-Meucci Museum (*National OSIA*); Multiple Sclerosis Walk; Relay for Life/American Cancer Society; Service Dogs Saving Lives.

### 2025 FALL DONATIONS:

"Bless Our Children" Campaign (WBOC-TV); Brandywine Valley SPCA; Clothing Our Kids, Inc.; Coastal Hospice; The CRICKET Center; Delaware Hospice Center; Diakonia, Inc.; Fostering Wishes; Harry K Foundation; Home of the Brave Foundation, Inc.; The Joseph House; The Justin W. Jennings Foundation, Inc.; OC Helping Heroes Foundation; OC Recreation Boosters (for Handicap Beach Chairs/Youth Program); Operation SEAs the Day; Read Aloud Delaware;

### 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 changes to your contact information. Thanks!*

### NEXT MEETING:

**Knights of Columbus Hall  
99<sup>th</sup> St. & Coastal Hwy  
Thursday  
November 6, 2025**

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

Rosaries & Scapulars Initiative, Inc.; South Coastal Village Volunteers; The Way Home; What Is Your Voice, Inc.; Worcester County Humane Society; Wreaths Across America.

It was suggested to purchase a large (fake) check to make the \$2,000 donation presentation in person to the WBOC-TV Bless Our Children Campaign for a photo opportunity and recognition of our Lodge and our March festival. Ed Pinto and Janet Ackerson will pursue this.

The Charity Committee has once again designated G.O.L.D. (Giving Other Lives Dignity) to provide us with 4 Christmas Families with 4 children each, as well as 3 vulnerable adults in need. The committee will be given their wish-lists and we will choose about 4 items from each to put on color-coordinated construction paper Christmas balls and trees to display at our November meeting for our members to choose their donation. Please try to put all the gift items you choose in one box as you will be using the Christmas balls and trees as their tag. Small-denomination gift cards for Walmart or Food Lion are always welcome.

The gifts will be collected at our December 10<sup>th</sup> Christmas Dinner and delivered the next day. Please let us know if you can volunteer to drive the gifts to G.O.L.D. in Snow Hill, MD. If you cannot attend the November meeting, but wish to donate, please contact Judy Zanetti at [thequeenzee@msn.com](mailto:thequeenzee@msn.com). In addition, if you will not be attending our Christmas dinner, but have a gift donation, please either give your gift to someone who is attending or contact Judy. A reminder will be sent to the Lodge membership before our November meeting.

Judy Zanetti, Charity Chairperson

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS / HISTORIAN**

As usual, I would like to remind all committee chairs to inform me in advance when planning an event. Planning ahead is a key element to a good public relations program. I can be reached at 703-901-5544 or at [airpinto293@gmail.com](mailto:airpinto293@gmail.com). And as I mentioned at the meeting, I can always use extra help taking photographs at functions that I am unable to attend, such as the crab feasts, social dinners, and trips that the chapter organizes. Emailing these to me allows me to use them in news releases publicizing our Lodge, and of course, they are included in the annual Historian Book. As usual, it is always my pleasure to help publicize the good that this chapter does but I cannot do that without your help.

Historian: As I informed all at our last meeting, I am looking for help in this area. Being historian is no different than the hobby of scrapbooking, which I know some of you have done in the past. It is creating an annual book that contains a record of what we have done during the year. That record begins with our monthly newsletters. It contains our press releases and newspaper clippings of those releases, photographs of our events, our travel, our charitable contributions, and of course our St. Joseph's Day Festival. You won't have to gather these items, I'm doing that already, but I would like to find someone to do the scrapbooking to better display

and preserve for the future our remarkable events. Give me a call at 703-901-5544 or email me at [airpinto293@gmail.com](mailto:airpinto293@gmail.com) and together let us compile the best record of the best Lodge in Maryland.

Ed Pinto, Publicity Chairperson and Historian

## FUND RAISING

The St. Joseph's Day Festival Fall Planning Session will be held on **Thursday, October 16, at 1:00 in St Andrews Hall**. Captains should let Vito know if they are unable to attend. All members are invited to attend.

Vito Potenza & Moe Delcher, Chairmen

## SOCIAL EVENTS: 2025-2026

***October Event: Columbus Day Social Dinner – Wednesday, October 15 – Touch of Italy Restaurant***, 6600 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD. This event is hosted by Vito & Donna Potenza. The Lodge response to the Columbus Day Social Dinner is amazing. We have 88 people signed up as I write this note. Thank you to the members who have asked me to remove them from the list. If any of the 88 people still on the list are unable to attend, please let me know ([vpotenza@aol.com](mailto:vpotenza@aol.com)). As a courtesy to Touch of Italy, I will be giving them the anticipated number of attendees on Wednesday, October 8, to help their planning for the evening.

I announced at the Lodge meeting that we have been asked by the restaurant to **spread out our arrivals between 5:00 and 6:00**. The staff believes we will be better served if we arrive for three seatings - 5:00PM, 5:30PM and 6:00 PM. I suggested at the meeting that **if your last name (or someone sitting with you) is between A-H plan to arrive around 5PM, if between I-P plan to arrive around 5:30PM, and Q-Z around 6PM**. You are, of course, free to come when it is convenient for you but please try to be flexible and spread out our arrivals. We will be occupying almost the entire restaurant (I was told that the capacity in the dining room is 100), so there will be plenty of time to socialize. The staff will provide separate checks and Happy Hour drink prices will be in effect through the night. Ciao, Vito Potenza

***Christmas Dinner - Wednesday, December 10, 2025*** at Cripple Creek Golf & Country Club, 29494 Cripple Creek Dr., Dagsboro, DE. COST: \$65.00 pp/Member - \$95.00 pp/NonMember. Social Hour will start at 5:00 PM with dinner following. Entertainment will be provided by DOUBLE AGENT. Reservations are required with payment due no later than **November 7, 2025**. The Dinner flyer is on our website and attached to this newsletter. Please fill out the bottom of the flyer with your entrée choice(s) selected and cut it off to include with your payment. Please make checks payable to: SONS OF ITALY OCEAN CITY.

**Christmas Show Trip - Wednesday, December 17, 2025** to the American Music Theatre in Lancaster, PA.; 3:00 PM show “DECK THE HALLS” – Dinner will follow the show at Miller’s Restaurant. TRIP IS SOLD OUT. Trip Waiver Forms sent out to the guests in an email. Please return at the October Meeting or mail it to me.

**January 2026 event: Sunday, January 18 at 7:30 pm., Parrot Beach-Jimmy Buffet Tribute Show;** Milton Theatre, 110 Union Street, Milton, DE; a signup sheet will be available at the November meeting.

**February 2026 Event: Wednesday, February 11, 2025; Ocean Downs Casino; 10218 Racetrack Road,** A signup sheet will be available at the November meeting.

Mary Ellen Arena and Neysa Silvestri, Chairpersons

**SDOI WEBSITE:** <http://sonsofitalyocancity.com/>

### **ACCESS TO THE SDOI MEMBER ONLY PAGES**

If you are requesting access to SDOI Member Only Pages for the first time or if you change your password, please follow the directions provided below. Please watch for emails with the subject *SDOI Members Only Pages Access*, and please respond in a timely manner.

*Thank you*



**Website** To Gain Access to the *SDOI MEMBER ONLY PAGES*, send an email to:  
**[website@sonsofitalyocancity.com](mailto:website@sonsofitalyocancity.com)**  
In the Subject Line, enter *Members Only Access.*  
In the Text Area, enter your *Name.*  
This will initiate the system process which will send you an email with the procedure to follow to create your password and how to reply to the email.  
Once the system receives your your password, it will assign you a ***USER NAME*** (log-in) and email it back to you. This ***USER NAME*** will ***NOT*** be your email address.  
Also if you change your password, you will need to send an email with your new password to:  
**[website@sonsofitalyocancity.com](mailto:website@sonsofitalyocancity.com)**  
In the Subject Line, enter *New Password.*  
In the Text Area, enter your *Name.*

Tom Pergola and John Rubino, Chairmen

### **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: Ray D’Antuono, Denise Buccheri, Palma Devic, Elaine Ferguson, Lorraine Gualtieri, Paul Harmon, Tom Pergola, 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).

**MEMBERS CELEBRATING OCTOBER/NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS: We wish a very Happy Birthday to:** 10/4-Bernie Busby; 10/5-Elana Michenzi; 10/12-Rosemary Brookhart; 10/13-Paul Campitelli; 10/15-Joe Tamberino, Sr; 10/16-Sharon DiNoto; 10/17-Lynne Watson; 10/22-Pat D'Annunzio, Cathy Russo; 10/24-Wanda Martinelli; 10/25-Kathy Impalomeni; 10/27-Nancy Errico, Lucille Kurtz; 11/2-Drew Johnson, Nancy Schriver; 11/4-Felina Breeding; 11/5-Vinnie Mollecone; 11/8-Anita Akob; 11/9-JoAnn Ward; 11/10-Mark Silvestri; 11/11-Tom Pomilla; 11/12-JoAnn Kochen; 11/13-Tom Pergola, Rita Rinaldi; 11/14-Moe Delcher, Rosemary Profili; 11/16-Frank Tribuno; 11/18-Jude DeLucco; 11/19-Karen DiMartino, Phyllis Donahue; 11/20-Bruce D'Alonsio, Deva Tucker; 11/21-Dan Cowell, Barbara Loffler; 11/22-Ed Motsco; 11/27-Nancy Capra; 11/29-Charles Laudicina. **(There are 11 members who do not have a birthday listed, so, if you wish to be added to the monthly lists, please send your birth month and day to Janet.Ackerson@gmail.com.)**

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

***Section 10: Guards (Sergeants at Arms)***

1. They are the Door Keepers of the Local Lodge.
2. They exclude strangers from the Executive Council Meetings and the General Assembly Meetings.
3. They admit those members who have properly identified themselves.
4. They announce number of members and guests present at the General Assembly meeting.

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

The following is an excerpt from *The Order Sons of Italy in America 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Centennial Journal: The Century of Progress 1905-2005*, that states one of the many accomplishments of the Order Sons & Daughters of Italy throughout our organization's existence:

“It was our Grand Lodges that created programs such as Operation Heartbeat which brought over 50 children to the U.S. to have open heart surgery so that they could live normal lives”

Respectfully submitted by: Janet Ackerson, Corresponding Secretary

