

Sons and Daughters of Italy

Ocean City Lodge #2474

General Meeting Minutes January 8, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the President, Sue Ann Baietti, at 7:01 PM.

Installation of Officers: State Lodge President, Vince Zaccaria and Susann Palamara conducted the installation of the Lodge officers for the 2026-2028 term.

ROLL CALL of OFFICERS: Donna Potenza called the names of the officers. Lynne Watson was absent and excused.

PRINCIPLES OF THE ORDER: Barbara Graziosi read the Principles of the Order.

PRAYER INTENTIONS: Barbara Graziosi asked for prayers for the families of our deceased members: Lorraine Gualtieri, Anna Rubino, Paul Harman, and John Pinnero. Prayers are asked for Tom Pergola, Elaine Ferguson, Nancy Borregine, Felina Breeding, Dottie Tumminello and Palma Devic.

OPENING PRAYER: Read by Rose Madden.

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

MINUTES of the LAST MEETING: November 2026 minutes were distributed by email. Motion to approve minutes was made by Susann Palamara and a second by Jude Delucco. All were in favor.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Sue Ann Baietti thanked everyone who attended the Christmas party. Cripple Creek will be booked for a Sunday next year. Sue Ann offered congratulations to Rose Madden, the 2025 Citizen of the Year.

TREASURER REPORT: Mark Silvestri. The Lodge is in good financial shape. Only one outstanding check for Copy Central. There is \$21,676.76 in the checking account. The Executive Council approved moving another \$6,000 to a 3-month CD. Our money market account stands at \$32,222 and two CD's: \$6,000 and \$10,198.62.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT: Paul Scalice is happy to be on the Council and promises to do a good job.

TRUSTEES' REPORT: Mike Quinn reported that as of November 14, 2025, audit showed that all our accounts are reconciled.

REPORT ATTENDANCE: Bob Ackerson and Joe Tamberino reported 99 members and 2 new members and 4 guests are present.

MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES: Since there was no sign in sheet, Sue Ann thanked all those who brought in treats for this evening.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Janet Ackerson. Thank you notes were received from several of our charity donations.

MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES: Thank you to all who brought goodies.

STANDING COMMITTEES REPORT

SCHOLARSHIP: Information will go out in mid-January to Stephen Decatur High School, Indian River High School, and Sussex Technical High School.

SOCIAL: Neysa Silvestri reported on the following:

DECEMBER Christmas Dinner on Wednesday, December 10, 2025, at Cripple Creek Country Club. 5 PM was fantastic. We will celebrate on a Sunday in 2026. Double Agent will be our DJ again.

DECEMBER Lancaster Christmas Show. December 17, 2025. A great trip!

JANUARY 18th: Milton Theater Jimmy Buffet tribute. 7:30 PM. Dinner prior to the show at Irish Times at 5:00 PM.

FEBRUARY 11, 2026: Buffet Luncheon at 12 PM Ocean Downs Casino. This is cancelled due to the fact that the casino agent wanted to charge us more.

FEBRUARY 15, 2026: James Bennet High School Rock and Roll Revival: Dance to the Music (music 50's to 2000's.) \$26 pp Time: 2-4 PM. Full payment by 2/5

FEBRUARY 15, 2026: Dinner Fratelli's: 5-7 PM Order off the menu and separate checks.

FEBRUARY 19, 2026: Valentine Dinner. Check -in 5:00 PM. Dinner 5:30-7:00 PM. Separate checks/order off the menu. Music by Then and Now. Dancing 7-9PM. Cost \$10pp for the band. Payment for the band by Feb 5, 2026.

MARCH 21, 2026: Festival

APRIL 16: Sophia's Italian Restaurant. Order off the menu/separate checks. 6-8 PM.

MAY 27, 2026: Shorebirds Baseball and Buffet in the Hard Ball Café. \$40 pp due by 3/31.

JUNE 18, 2026, Ferry to Cape May

JUNE 25, 2026, Italian Students' Dinner

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026: Crab Feast NOTE DATE CHANGE

DECEMBER 13, 2026: Christmas Dinner at Cripple Creek

DECEMBER 17, 2026: Christmas Show in Lancaster American Music Theatre. Stop at Kitchen Kettle Village and dinner at Miller's Smorgasbord. \$165 pp Deposit \$65pp due 2/28/26. Balance: June 4, 2026.

CHARITY: Judy Zanetti: Thank you to all for the Christmas presents for the 6 families we sponsored. There were 19 children. There was \$995 in gift cards. The committee: Bernice Harman, Sue Ann Baietti, Janet Ackeson and Judy Zanetti. We gave to 29 charities. The big check presented to Bless Our Children to WBOC is on its Facebook page.

HELPING HANDS: No report.

PUBLICITY AND PROGRAMS: Ed Pinto: Ed sent the picture and article on Bless Our Children to Il Giornale and Italian American magazine. It is Festival crunch time. Program is being prepared. Get your memorial and patronads in now. Captains review your signs. Barbara and Sue Ann will promote the Festival the Wednesday before the festival on WBOC Delmarva Life.

WEBSITE: Tom Pergola. No report. Donna Potenza will send updated scholarship information to Tom for the online application.

FUNDRAISING: Vito Potenza reported the final planning meeting will be held at St. Andrew's Hall at 10 AM on January 21, 2026. Need someone to take charge of purchasing and delivering balloons to the hall. Be sure to see Mary Ellen Arena to volunteer.

Moe: Ad forms are available after the meeting. 2025 programs are also available.

Janet: Signup sheets are available tonight for areas she needs help with since she will not be at the Feb. meeting. Janet will list supply needs in the newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP: Joan Demarco and Rosemary Gear were thanked for their years of service as membership chairs. Barbara Alexander and Noreen Scalice announced our guests: Joann and Tom Spink and Beth and Eric Kimmey. New members: Marilyn Kachline and Linda Hosier. Ro Pomilla announced that to date, we have 198 members.

OLD BUSINESS: Barbara Graziosi has Super Raffle tickets. See Vinnie Mollicone about shirts, hats, and totes.

NEW BUSINESS: Armando Graziosi announced we have the Beer Truck for Sunfest, October 22-25, 2026.

Sal Castorina made a motion for the executive council to do a feasibility study to do another endowment to Wor-Wic. Tony Parisi seconded it. All in favor of moving forward with a study.

Closing Prayer: Read by Barbara Graziosi.

50/50: \$106 won by Barbara Graziosi.

Meeting Adjourned: at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Potenza, Recording Secretary