

Sons and Daughters of Italy

Ocean City Lodge #2474

General Meeting Minutes February 5, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the Vice-President, Barbara Graziosi, at 7:01 PM.

ROLL CALL of OFFICERS: Donna Potenza called the names of the officers. Sue Baietti, Rich Baietti, Bob Ackerson, Janet Ackerson and Rich Buccheri were absent and excused.

PRINCIPLES OF THE ORDER: Paul Scalice read the Principles of the Order.

PRAYER INTENTIONS: Rose Madden read the prayer requests. Prayers are asked for Tom Pergola, Elaine Ferguson, Maria Fortuna, Jim DiCianna, brother of Jude DeLucco, and Palma Devic. In addition, we ask for prayers for the repose of the souls of Ercole DiMatteo, brother of Guy, and Bobby, adopted son of Ed Smith.

OPENING PRAYER: Read by Lynne Watson.

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

MINUTES of the LAST MEETING: January 2026 minutes were distributed by email. Motion to approve minutes as amended was made by Mike Blair and a second by Andy Maggio. All were in favor.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Barbara pointed out the picture in the Italian American Magazine of the check being presented to WBOC Bless Our Children campaign. Sue Ann and Rich attended a Zoom meeting on I-member which will be used for membership only. Paul Scalice and Ro Pomilla will have access.

TREASURER REPORT: Mark Silvestri. The Lodge is in good financial shape. A \$7,000 CD with a 3.25% interest rate has been purchased. There is \$17,421.59 in the operating account. \$12,000 is to cover St. Joseph's day Festival expenses.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT: One new member

TRUSTEES' REPORT: No report

REPORT ATTENDANCE: JoeTamberino reported 83 membersalthough not all signed in.

MISTRESS of CEREMONIES: Lynne thanked: WandaMartellini, Jean Delcher, Rita Rinaldi. Deb Reda, Dee Matthews and Barbara Loffler for this evening's refreshments.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Janet Ackerson. In Janet's absence, Mark read a thank you from SPCA, a no kill animal service.

STANDING COMMITTEES REPORT

SCHOLARSHIP:Deadline: March 25th.

SOCIAL:Neysa Silvestri reported on the following:

JANUARY 18th: Despite the weather, the dinner and show were great.

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 Now and Then. Dancing 7-9PM. Cost \$10pp for the band.

MARCH21, 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 Doors open at 12:00

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:No report

HELPING HANDS: No report.

PUBLICITY AND PROGRAMS:Ed Pinto:No report

WEBSITE: Tom Pergola. No report.

FUNDRAISING: Vito Potenza reported the final planning meeting was held at St. Andrew's Hall on January 21, 2026. It was voted to have a memorial to 4 of our deceased members in our program book who for years served as volunteers. They are Anna Rubino, Paul Harman, Lorraine Gualtieri and Mike Jacobs. In addition, there will be a picture of Lorraine at the statue.Fr. Coccuci will do the opening prayer.Lorraine has asked Maria, her daughter, to provide a sandwich lunch at the Festival to any volunteer who writes a petition and pins \$5 to the ribbon on the St. Joseph statue.A white ticket will be given to the volunteer who must present the ticket to the cashiers to get a slip to turn into the kitchen for the food. JoAnn will let Maria know at the end what she owes. Janet's sign-up sheets are at the end of the table. Last call for memorial and patron ads for Ed to place in the program. Thankyou to all who have already givenpatron listings and memorialtributes, solicited ads, items for the baskets and the silent auction.Be sure to let Mary Ellen Arena know if you are available to volunteer. Vito has her list.

Moe: 2026 Festival posters available.

Nonna's Bakery: Sign-up sheet at the membership table to donate baked goods.

Kitchen: An email will be sent by Donna to the kitchen crew with dates and times.

MEMBERSHIP: Barbara Alexander introduced Eric Kimmey and Joanne Spink as new members. There was a guest.

OLD BUSINESS:

Barbara Graziosi has Super Raffle tickets.This is the last month for sales. Barbara also has cookbooks. See Vinnie Mollicone about shirts, hats, and totes. Festival workers are to wear a red shirt with black slacks.

NEW BUSINESS: The motion passed to investigate an additional endowment is tabled while Mark looks into what this entails.

For The Good of the Order: Andy Maggio has flyers with information about his Rosaries & Scapulars Initiative, Inc. To date, 800,000 distributed. Donations will be appreciated.

Al Carmenini has tickets for the Senior--SeniorProm held by the Youth Group at St. Mary Star of the Sea Church. It is a great time.Feb. 21, 2026.

Closing Prayer: Read by Lynne Watson

50/50: \$92 won byEileen Salafia

Meeting Adjourned:at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Potenza, Recording Secretary