

September 2026 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,

Welcome back!

What a crowd! This is what I love to see at our meetings. In June, we had an amazing group of Italian students visiting us. They were bright, energetic, and such a pleasure to interact with. It was wonderful spending time with these fine young women and men.

The Baltimore Orioles vs. New York Yankees game was fantastic, and I know a good time was had by all!

We also have some exciting news. Bob Ackerson and Rich Baietti will be taking over our festival. A big thank-you to these gentlemen for stepping up to help us. Please make sure that, whether you are new or not so new, you volunteer to help with our festival. Your support makes a tremendous difference.

The beer truck will be at Sunfest again, providing another great fundraising opportunity through volunteering.

Neysa Silvestri has included everything in her Social Report, so be sure to check it out.

Judy Zannetti announced the charities we will be supporting. All of these charities are such worthy causes, and I am so proud to be a part of this committee.

Thank you all for your continued support, enthusiasm, and dedication. I look forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming events!

Ciao! Sue Ann 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

Paul Scalice
302-604-8715

Orator

Rose Madden
(703) 350-7398

VICE PRESIDENT

We are looking for nominations for the Distinguished Citizen of the Year award. The form is on the website. Our Italian cookbooks are still available for \$10 each.

Barbara Graziosi, Vice President

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

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

SERGEANTS-AT-ARMS

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 Bob Ackerson or Joe Tamberino at our monthly meetings and make checks out to Etch Art. We had over 100 members at our September 3rd meeting and Frank DeLucco won the 50/50 raffle.

HELPING HANDS COMMITTEE:

Please be sure to contact Judē DeLucco if you are in the hospital, home bound & need a meal at E-mail: jdelucco@gmail.com, Phone number: 443-783-3317. 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 her.
Thanks, Judē DeLucco, Chairperson

PUBLICITY REPORT

As we start a new season and begin to renew our programs I would like to remind everyone to try and let me know in advance of any of your initiatives you are planning so I can think in advance about any possible public relations value to our Lodge, and if there is. then I can also start planning. It's easy to keep me aware by just adding my email address (airpinto293@gmail.com) as a cc to your committee emails. If I see something that I think can result in a press release I can then get in touch with you and let you know and together we can work on it. Be Well.
Ed Pinto, Chairman

TRUSTEES:

Rich Baietti. (302) 945-4237
Rich Buccheri, 410-456-0707
Al D'Annunzio, 302-841-3745
Morrell Delcher, 410-746-1611
Vito Potenza, 301-643-2106

MISTRESSES OF CEREMONY:

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

SERGEANTS-AT-ARMS:

Bob Ackerson, 302-228-2304
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
Tonya Amber
410-600-4519

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Please let me know if you are not receiving our email notices.
Also contact me if you are not on our birthday list and wish to be added.

Janet Ackerson, Corresponding Secretary

FUNDRAISING REPORT:

Sunfest Beer Truck - October 22-25: We will be volunteering at the beer truck for Sunfest this year and Guy Akob will be assisting Armando Graziosi in organizing the volunteers. All the time slots are now filled. Let's pray for good weather and a successful return of funds!!

St Joseph's Day Festival - March 20, 2027:

Rich Baietti and Bob Ackerson volunteered to chair this major fundraising event. The Fall planning session will be held on October 14 at 1:00PM at St Andrews Hall. All Captains and key workers are urged to attend. Members who are interested in volunteering are also welcome. This is the first of two planning sessions, with the second one held in mid-January.

CHARITY REPORT

The Charity Committee Chairperson, Judy Zanetti, and the members, Sue Ann Baietti, Bernice Harman, Joan DeMarco, and Janet Ackerson, met to distribute our \$10,000 budget to our list of 501(c)(3) charities. We had decided to give a donation to 4 National charities and 24 local ones in Maryland and Delaware. Our proposal was approved at our Executive Council and our General Assembly meetings. Thank you to our members for all your hard work with our festival, which allows us to donate to these worthy charities. Copies of our charity list and a list with further information for them are on our website.

Judy Zanetti, Chairperson

MEMBERS CELEBRATING SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

We wish a very Happy Birthday to: 9/1-Elissa Mulligan, Tony DeSanctis; 9/7-Daniel Pironto, Mary Louise Embrey; 9/8-Janice Nippes; 9/9-Carol Aiello; 9/11-Nancy Borreggine; 9/14-Neysa Silvestri, John Capra; 9/17-Eric Kimmey; 9/22-Charles Poggioli; 9/24-Lydia Schwartz; 9/25-Carrie Schwartz; 9/27-Jean Temple; 9/30-Tony Shiflett.

Membership

Rosemarie Pomilla, Chair
302-519-3641

Public Relations

Ed Pinto
703-901-5544

Scholarship

Donna Potenza, Chair
410-641-8046

Social

Neysa Silvestri, Chair
410-913-3564

Website:

<http://sonsofitalyoceancity.com>
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
99th St. & Coastal Hwy**

**Thursday
October 1, 2026**

**5:30 p.m. Executive Council
7:00 p.m. General Meeting
(Doors Open at 6:30 p.m.)**

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: Greg Amber, Nancy Borreggine, Sal Castorina, Palma Devic, and Elaine Ferguson. Please pray for the repose of the soul of Gerry Truman, who passed away recently. In addition, please keep Dawn Harman in your prayers (daughter-in-law of our sister, Bernice Harman).

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. A big thank-you to Rose Madden for sending prayer requests in Janet's absence this past summer! Please send your prayer requests, with the consent of the recipient or their family, to: Janet.ackerson@gmail.com.

SOCIAL EVENTS

I hope you all have had a wonderful and relaxing summer! Here are some events several of us attended over the summer:

On June 18th, we took a trip by school bus and ferry from Lewes, Delaware to Cape May, New Jersey, for the day. We enjoyed walking the Promenade, shopping, and eating lunch. Everyone who attended seemed to enjoy himself/herself, and there have already been several requests to do this trip again soon.

On June 25th, we celebrated the arrival of the J-1 Italian students. Our meal was catered by Mac's Catering Service. The food was delicious and plentiful. All of the students were very appreciative of the meal and desserts. One lucky student won a bicycle that was donated by one of our members. The canvas bags filled with all kinds of goodies were given to the students. It was a lively group! We were thrilled to be able to meet and talk to several of the students that evening.

In June, we attended a Shore Birds game. After being canceled by the Shore Birds for the first game, we were all able to make another game and eat at the Hard Ball Cafe. The Shore Birds provided vouchers for food for those who attend a Shore Birds game on their own. (see photos)

In August, 55 members and guests attended Italian Heritage Night. We took a motor coach to Camden Yards to watch the Orioles and Yankees play. The bus was split between Orioles fans and Yankees fans. Even though the Yankees won 3-1, those attending in my opinion were all winners! Although the air conditioning was not working well and there was some confusion as to who could pick up the special Orioles/Italian Heritage Night caps, we all had great seats right by third base! (see photos)

What to look forward to:

Sunday, September 13: Annual Crab Feast at Higgins Crab House North, Address: 12801 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD. Time: 1:00-4:00pm. Check-in starts at 12:40. Hope you are feeling lucky because we will have 4 baskets to raffle off as well as 50/50's to purchase!

Sunday, October 4: Social Dinner at The Pines Restaurant, 56 Baltimore Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, DE, sponsored by our sister, Mary Louise Embry. Time: 5:30-7:00pm, please arrive between 5:30-5:45pm. Our group will be dining in the private Treehouse Lounge room upstairs (no elevator); The upstairs entrance is to the left of the main restaurant door. There is off-season street parking or at the convention center lot. Separate checks will be permitted and Sunday is Italian night, with some featured entrees at \$19. If you wish to attend and haven't yet signed up, please contact Mary Louise at mary.louise.embrey@gmail.com.

Tuesday, November 10: Social Dinner at Touch of Italy sponsored by the Potenza's. Address: 6600 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD 21842 Time: Depending on the number of attendees, there may be several seating times (i.e. 5:00/5:30/6:00). There are sign-up sheets for each time at our meetings. If interested in attending, please contact Vito Potenza at vpotenza@aol.com.

Sunday, December 13: Christmas Dinner at Cripple Creek Golf Club Address: 29494 Cripple Creek Drive Dagsboro, DE 19939 Time: 4:00-8:00pm. Please make sure you bring your Christmas gift! Double Agent will be playing again. Hope to see everyone up and dancing. [Gift suggestions for a charity family will be displayed at the November meeting.]

Thursday, December 17: Christmas Show "Winter Wonderland" at The American Music Theatre in PA. We will visit Kitchen Kettle Village where you are on your own to shop and eat lunch. Then we will see the show. After the show, we will have dinner at Miller's Smorgasbord in Lancaster, PA. Attendees have already paid for their bus ride, ticket to the show, and dinner.

2027:

January: Possible trip to Ocean Downs Casino

February: James Bennett High School Rock n Roll Revival/Dinner at Fratelli's Italian Restaurant afterwards

March 20, 2027: St. Joseph's Day Festival

April: Possible trip to Suicide Bridge Restaurant, lunch, and boat ride

May: Possible trip to Annapolis, MD. Visit the United States Naval Academy/Lunch in downtown Annapolis

June: J1 Italian Students' Dinner; Trip to Cape May, New Jersey via Lewes/Cape May Ferry

I would like to thank all of the SDOI members who have been so supportive and helpful to me. I am proud to say I am a member of this organization!

Neysa Silvestri, Chairperson

Please note that the monthly social dinners are held to thank those businesses that donate gift certificates or ads for our festival. If you are interested in arranging a group dinner, here are some restaurants who have supported our Lodge: **Delaware:** DiFebo's, Bethany Diner, Hooked Up Ale House/Off the Hook, Fins Ale House & Raw Bar/JR's Seafood Shack, Porto's Pizza & Grill, Dirty Harry's, Mancini's Brick Oven Pizzeria & Restaurant, Summer Salts Café/Flip Flops Bar & Grill, Yellowfins Bar & Grill, The Salted Rim, Millsboro Pizza Palace, Fenwick Pub, Good Earth Restaurant, Big Fish, Crystal Restaurant, and the Parkway Restaurant. **Maryland:** Forgotten 50 Distilling, Plaza Tapatia, Southgate Grill, Longboard Café, Hooked/Tailchasers, Seacrets, Coins, The Sterling Tavern, Bayside Skillet, Spain Wine Bar, and Waterman's Seafood. **Other restaurants we have already gone to as a group one or more times are:** Mio's Italian Steakhouse, Fager's Island, Touch of Italy OC, Nantucket's, Cripple Creek, Catch 54, Saltwater 75, Green Turtle West, Trattoria Lombardi's, Luna's Cactus Café, Sunset Grill, Irish Eyes, and Sophia's Italian Restaurant; also Dine & Donate events at Bethany Blues and Ropewalk OC.

Thank you, Neysa Silvestri, Chairperson

MEMBERSHIP WEBSITE ACCESS: 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

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

In the Subject Line, enter **New Password.**
In the Text Area, enter your **Name.**

OUR SONS & DAUGHTERS OF ITALY HISTORICAL HERITAGE:

The following is an excerpt from *The Order Sons of Italy in America 100th 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:

“The Order celebrated its Silver Anniversary in 1980. In the ensuing 25 years, our beloved Order has continued to make remarkable contributions to this great nation as well as grow ever more powerful and respected.”

“One year after our Silver Jubilee, we purchased a building in Washington, D.C., as our national headquarters. The next year, we established our Commission for Social Justice which fights defamation and promotes our heritage.”

Respectfully submitted by: Janet Ackerson, Corresponding Secretary 



JUNE 2026 DELMARVA SHOREBIRDS GAME!



ITALIAN HERITAGE NIGHT AT CAMDEN YARDS August 18, 2026



Oriole's Home Run!



ORIOLES VS. YANKEES

