



# La Bandiera

*The Banner  
Newsletter of*

*The Italian Heritage Lodge of Fairfax #2517  
Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America*



**GIUGNO 2023  
MESSAGGIO DELLA PRESIDENTESSA**

*Welcome,*

June, the unofficial beginning of summer and a very busy month at IHL. We have our annual Bocce Picnic, Father's Day and Italian American Heritage Night at the Nat's game, not to mention Lunch Bunch and Happy Hour. Please come and join us at one or many of these events. We miss you!

I was happy to award the state award to IHL members Sandy & Roy Schender. Both contribute so much to IHL and you can always count on them whenever and wherever needed. Kudos Sandy & Roy and many thanks!

On a personal note, I am humbled and honored that *Voce Italiana*, the voice of the Italian American community in Washington, DC., chose to run an article on my beloved Francesco. *Voce Italiana* is related to Casa Italiana and Holy Rosary Church, both in DC. If you haven't been there, it's a spectacular church and worth a visit. A heartfelt thank you to Sonny Scafetta for playing a part in bringing this recognition to fruition.

See you all at the Bocce Picnic.

*Dawn*



Vol. 62 • No. 4  
1961-2023

## Voce Italiana

The Voice of Italian America in the Nation's Capital



May 2023  
\$2.50

### Remembering marble craftsman Francesco Falsinotti

The Italian Heritage Lodge of Fairfax, Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America mourns the passing of Francesco Falsinotti, 67, past vice-president and beloved husband of current President Dawn Falsinotti. Francesco was born in Pietrasanta, Italy and grew up in the Mediterranean seaside town of Forte dei Marmi. At a young age he developed a lifelong love for soccer, especially his team, Inter Milan.

He served in and was a decorated member of the Italian Army. While growing up in Pietrasanta, world-renowned for marble and sculpture, he began working in the marble trade and quickly became a much sought after marble artisan craftsman. He took his skill throughout Italy, Europe, and the Middle East, eventually settling in the United States. Moving to the Washington D.C.



Francesco Falsinotti

area in 1989, he quickly rose to prominence within his industry. He was an extraordinary artisan and a master of his craft. Much of his artistry can be found all over the D.C. metro area. He enjoyed a career at Washington Marble & Granite for 33 years.

A lifelong lover of animals, he doted on his pets. He belonged to several groups including OSDIA as well as soccer and racing clubs. He enjoyed history and developed an in-depth knowledge of the history of World War II. He and his wife toured many of the European WWII sites.

He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Dawn, his children, Sister Agnese of Cornwall, UK, Lara, of Forte dei Marmi and Alex of Fairfax, Va., as well as a sister, Anna Maria Falsinotti and her family.

**MSA**  
**CESS** Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools  
Commission on Elementary and Secondary Schools

**Daniel L. Stabile, Ph.D.**  
Ambassador  
Commissioner - Secondary Schools

409 Great Falls Street  
Falls Church, VA 22045

703-897-7268  
703-899-8864  
dstabile@gmail.com

**James W. Cocco, CPA LLC**



Certified Public Accountant  
Taxation Specialist  
11325 Random Hills Road, Suite 360  
Fairfax, VA 22030- (703) 980-6575  
jim@jwcoccpallc.com

**ORDER SONS & DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA  
ITALIAN HERITAGE LODGE #2517  
2023-2024 OFFICERS**

**President:** Dawn Falsinotti  
703-362-1724 falsinotti@yahoo.com  
**Vice-President:** Charles Romano  
631-974-5040 crretired22@gmail.com  
**Imm. Past-President:** Coletta Sciscilo  
703-795-2231 colette.sciscilo@gmail.com  
**Orator:** Joseph Scafetta, Jr.  
703-533-8064 joseph.scafetta.jr@gmail.com  
**Recording Secy.:** Marianne Hallahan  
703-968-8330 rumbarunt@aol.com  
**Financial Secy.:** Eleanor Lillo  
703-354-2454 delillo1@verizon.net  
**Treasurer:** Dennis Lillo  
703-354-2454 delillo1@verizon.net

**Lodge Trustees:**  
Carol Cassella  
James Cocco  
John Dovel  
Vivian Mott  
Nancy Perrelli

**Master of Ceremony:** Roy Schender  
**Mistress of Ceremony:** Sandy Schender

**Guard:** Michael Gering

**Education Chair:** Elisabetta Lazarte  
Elisabettalazarte@gmail.com

**Membership Chair:** Sharon Peruzzi Strauchs  
sharon@tlc-nv.com

**Webmaster:** Joe La Marca  
Joe.lamarca@italianheritagelodge.org

**Publicity Chair:** Joseph Scafetta, Jr.  
joseph.scafetta.jr@gmail.com

**Lodge Members Serving on the Grand Council of Virginia:**

Joseph Scafetta, Jr., Former State President  
Coletta Sciscilo, Trustee  
Marianne Hallahan, Arbitration Committee  
Charles Romano, Arbitration Committee

## IL CALENDARIO

June 2

### *Festa della Repubblica Italiana*

June 6

Executive Council  
Meeting

6:00 p.m.

The Esposito's

June 13

Happy Hour

5:00 p.m.

One Bar & Grill  
10427 North St., #102  
Fairfax

June 10

*Giochiamo a bocce!\*\*\**

Noon-4:00 p.m.

5104 Colebrook Place  
Alexandria, VA

June 18

### *Festa del papà*

June 20

Italian Heritage Night

7:05 p.m.

Nats Stadium  
Washington, D.C.

June 22

Lunch Bunch\*

Noon

UNO Pizzeria & Grill  
3058 Gate House Plaza  
Falls Church

June 24

Italian Language Group

6:00 p.m.

TBD

July 9

Fourth of July Brunch  
& White Elephant Sale

11:00 a.m.

K of C Hall

August 12

Under the Boardwalk  
"Casino Night"

5:00 p.m.

K of C Hall

September 9

Meet & Greet Spaghetti Dinner  
With Guest Speakers

5:00 p.m.

K of C Hall

October 14

Guest Speaker

5:00 p.m.

K of C Hall

November 11

Guest Speaker

5:00 p.m.

K of C Hall

*Look further into this Newsletter for the "Bocce at the Lillo's" flyer with all information!*

***BOCCE AT THE LILLO'S\*\**** – We are in need of a few fellows to assist with set up for the bocce event. Please contact Dennis or Ellie Lillo if you have the time to arrive a little bit early to help set up or offer any other assistance needed. Also, don't forget to RSVP ([delillo1@verizon.net](mailto:delillo1@verizon.net)) by June 6<sup>th</sup> as we will need a head count for the food purchasing and tournament sign up. Come ready to play your best game of bocce on the Lillo's official bocce court and enjoy a summer picnic with IHL lodge sisters and brothers and their families.

\* RSVP to Dawn Falsinotti ([falsinotti@yahoo.com](mailto:falsinotti@yahoo.com))

\*\* RSVP to Dennis or Ellie Lillo ([delillo1@verizon.net](mailto:delillo1@verizon.net))

## *IHL Language & Dinner Group*

### *~ Cena e conversazione ~*

The IHL Language Group gathered on Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, at the Old Town Alexandria home of Nannette and Gerry Croce for an evening of dinner, language study and conversation in “*la bella lingua Italiana*”. *Molto grazie* to Nannette and Gerry for hosting this month’s group in their home and for providing the pasta main course, to all attendees contributing delicious “antipasto, contorni, dolce, e vino”, and to Carol Ann and Ken Linder for providing the Italian “lezione”.

Dennis conveyed that “*La cena ieri era fantastico. Grazie a Nannette e Gerry per ospitarci. Grazie to tutti di noi per le nostre contribuzioni. Stiamo andando alla grande, quindi lasciamo programmare un altro successo per giugno.*”

The next language group *cena e conversazione* has been planned for June 24. You can email Dennis Ferrara at [dennisferrara@hey.com](mailto:dennisferrara@hey.com) if you have questions or are interested in joining.



*Pictured:*  
Fran,  
Dennis,  
Kathleen,  
Peter, Mike,  
Carol Ann,  
Ken,  
Nannette  
and Gerry



*The goal of the IHL Language Group is to promote our Italian heritage through language by creating opportunities to practice and improve our ability to speak Italian. To that end, we strive to create a friendly and pleasant environment for our meetings. Specifically, we meet monthly in a social setting to speak as much Italian as we can.*



## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

John Ingargiola	June 2
Kal Maiwand	June 7
Tony Andreoli	June 16
Sandy Schender	June 18
Kerri Farrell	June 23
Christine Chambers	June 30



## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Karen and Russell DeRose	June 5
Maria and Fred Ingham	June 9
Pam and Richard Pasquariello	June 18
Marilyn Miyasato and Jim Cocco	June 20
Judith and Mario Palmiotto	June 28



Our sincerest congratulations to Sandy and Roy Schender, IHL's Master and Mistress of Ceremony, who were awarded this year's State Awards. These awards were announced at this year's GLVA Biennial convention on April 29<sup>th</sup> in Virginia Beach, VA. The awards were given by President Dawn to Roy at our Italian Bingo Night where he also accepted the award on Sandy's behalf.



Roy Schender accepting the 2023 State Awards from President Dawn Falsinotti.

# IHL Bocce at the Lillo's



**When:** Saturday, June 10, 2023  
(RAIN DATE: Saturday, June 17, 2023)

**Where:** 5104 Colebrook Place  
Alexandria, VA 22312

**Time:** 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM

*Hosted by*  
Eleanor and Dennis Lillo

**Menu:** Grilled Hamburgers & Hot Dogs with all the Fixings,  
Sausage & Peppers, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Desserts  
& Cold Beverages

**There will be a charge of \$15 per person for this event.  
Make check payable to IHL and mail to 5104 Colebrook Place,  
Alexandria, VA 22312.**

**Please confirm your attendance by June 6<sup>th</sup>!**  
**RSVP who will be attending and who will**  
**play in the bocce tournament.**  
**By email: [delillo1@verizon.net](mailto:delillo1@verizon.net)**  
**By telephone: (703) 354-2454**

**This event is sponsored by the  
Italian Heritage Lodge of Fairfax  
for Lodge members and their families.**



**Come and enjoy the fun!**



# Italian Bingo Night



## U.S. Postal Service Issues Stamp for Tomie dePaola



The U.S. Postal Service unveiled a “Forever” postage stamp to honor Tomie dePaola on May 5, 2023, in a first-day-of-issue ceremony inside the Currier Museum of Art in Manchester, New Hampshire. The stamp went on sale nationwide on Saturday, May 6, 2023. A sheet of 20 stamps costs \$12.60. The stamp shows a detail from the cover of *Strega Nona* (Witch Grandmother), a Caldecott Honor Book published in 1975. Tomie dePaola was a prolific children’s book author and illustrator whose body of work includes Italian folk tales and legends, informative books, religious and holiday stories, and autobiographical accounts.

Thomas Anthony dePaola was born in Meriden, Connecticut, on September 15, 1934. He was the son of Joseph dePaola and Florence May Downey dePaola. His paternal grandparents had emigrated from the region of Calabria. After earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn in 1956 and a Master of Fine Arts from the California College of Arts in 1969, he started his writing and illustrating career, working on more than 270 books, and selling more than 25 million copies worldwide. Most were translated into over 20 languages. Over the course of his 50-year career, he won numerous awards, most notably the prestigious Laura Ingalls Wilder Medal in 2011.

On March 23, 2020, he was injured in a fall inside his barn studio, underwent surgery, but died from complications on March 30, 2020, in a hospital in Lebanon, New Hampshire. He was 85. He never married.

***Italian Heritage Night at Nats Stadium  
Tuesday, June 20 at 7:05 p.m.***

The Nats came thru for the AMHS/Holy Rosary contingent and offered the group discounted seats for the organization's Italian Heritage Night. The Nats provided a dedicated website/link to purchase tickets for the June 20 game vs the St Louis Cardinals. The tickets are \$36 with a small service fee but will also include a tee-shirt with the ticket purchase. Our initial allotment was three rows of 10 seats, or 30 tickets, all in the same section. fevognm.com is the link, but please contact VP Charlie Romano ([crretired22@gmail.com](mailto:crretired22@gmail.com)) as soon as possible if you are having trouble accessing the link. He can send the link directly to your email.

Tickets are limited and there are other Italian societies purchasing tickets for this event, so please don't delay if you want to join some of your IHL lodge members who will represent our Italian heritage!



The annual ***White Elephant Sale*** will take place at our July 9<sup>th</sup> brunch. Start rummaging through closets, attics, and garages, for your new, old, used, slightly used or regifting items to donate for sale and come ready also to bid on others' donated items. There is no need to price items as our experienced auctioneers will do that for us. This is a combined bunch event and the menu will be posted in an upcoming issue of *La Bandiera*. In the past, members have donated toys, china, small kitchen items, tablecloths, artwork, candles, and the like. So, if you are looking for a way to get rid of "unwanted or unneeded" items in your home, please donate them to IHL for our annual treasury fundraiser. At same time, you will have fun bidding and outbidding each other and may find some new "treasures" of your own.

# HELP WANTED

*See VP Charlie Romano for more information.*

***La Bandiera Editor: Coletta Sciscilo (703) 795-2231 / [Colette.sciscilo@gmail.com](mailto:Colette.sciscilo@gmail.com)***

***Website: [www.ItalianHeritageLodge.org](http://www.ItalianHeritageLodge.org) Facebook: OSDIA Fairfax***

***Instagram: [sonsofitaly\\_ihl2517](https://www.instagram.com/sonsofitaly_ihl2517)***

***DEADLINE for articles, pictures and other information is one week prior to the first day of each month.***



## ***La Bandiera* highlights June and Joe La Marca's recent trip to Sardinia:**

### ***SARDINIA***

The island of Sardinia is located just west of the boot of Italy. It is the second largest island in the Mediterranean Sea after Sicily. Like Sicily, it is one of the 20 regions of Italy. Our trip was concentrated in the southern half of the island. The island has been invaded and controlled by many different groups including Phoenicians, Romans, Vandals, Byzantines, Genoans, Pisans, Arabs, Spaniards, and the House of Savoy. Before all of these, there was an indigenous Prehistoric Nuragic civilization which left many stone structures some of which we saw and are UNESCO protected. All of the groups and civilizations that arrived here have left their mark making the island and its language much different from the rest. The weather was magnificent, 72-75 degrees and blue skies and sunshine every day. Of course, we enjoyed the local delicious wines, food and gelato. Walking 3-5 miles a day we certainly got our exercise in. A memorable trip enjoyed by all.



*Grazie June e Giuseppe per le bellissime foto e i ricordi della tua vacanza.*

## *Italian Lemon Ricotta Cheesecake*

### INGREDIENTS:

3 large eggs; room temperature – separate the yolks from the whites and set whites aside  
½ cup granulated sugar  
1 ½ cup whole milk ricotta (drain if it is watery)  
Zest of one lemon  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
2 tablespoons lemon juice  
1/3 cup corn starch  
3 tablespoons softened butter

Butter a 7” springform pan and line the bottom with parchment paper

Preheat oven to 350°

With a hand mixer, mix the yolks, then add the sugar. Mix in the ricotta cheese. Add the zest, vanilla, lemon juice, corn starch and softened butter. Mix ingredients thoroughly.

Wash the mixers and then whip the egg whites until stiff.

Gently fold the egg whites into the cheese mix with a large spoon. Transfer the mix into the greased springform pan and bake at 350° for 50 minutes.

Let the cake cool down, then cover with plastic wrap and place in refrigerator. This can be done overnight. The cake will firm up the longer it is in the refrigerator. To serve, dust the top with powdered sugar before slicing.



*Please patronize our advertisers*



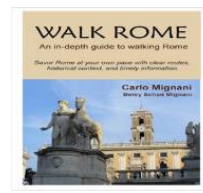
**RE/MAX ALLEGIANCE**  
**June La Marca, ABR, CRS, GRI, CDPE**  
Life Member, Top Producer

Relocation Specialist

5641 Burke Centre Parkway, Burke, VA 22015

Office -703-250-8500, [june@junelamarca.com](mailto:june@junelamarca.com)

Cell -703-477-7312, Fax 866-269-0389



**CARLO AND BETSY MIGNANI** have written a valuable guide to assist tourists who want to explore the Eternal City on their own with historical context and timely information. Available on Amazon, search “Walk Rome Mignani.”

[www.walk-rome.com](http://www.walk-rome.com)



**4 J WEALTH MANAGEMENT, LLC**

**Jeff Sciscilo, CFA**

A registered Wealth Advisor

**703-566-9573, [Jeff@4jwealth.com](mailto:Jeff@4jwealth.com)**

330 King St., Suite 10B

Alexandria, VA 22314

**YOUR AD HERE**

**Cortona Academy, Grades 7-12**



**Sharon Peruzzi Strauchs, Director**

Since 1992, one of the best

private academies on the East Coast

Discounts for IHL members, families and friends

[Www.CortonaLearning.com](http://Www.CortonaLearning.com)

703-464-0034; [Sharon@TLC-NV.com](mailto:Sharon@TLC-NV.com)

**YOUR AD HERE**