



The Banner



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

FEBBRAIO 2021 MESSAGGIO DELLA PRESIDENTESSA

Cari amici,

As I sit here writing this, the snow is gently falling and it's a beautiful winter wonderland. The most snow we've had in a couple of years. Hard to believe it's been a year since we were all together. Last February we celebrated Carnivale in Venezia, a fun night. Hopefully, as people get their immunizations we'll be able to get back to normal in the near future. And when we do it will be one heck of a celebration.

February is a busy month..... Valentine's Day, President's Day and Ash Wednesday. Lots to celebrate. We'll host our next "Happy Hour" zoom meeting on February 24th. See you then.

Stay safe.

Best regards, Dawn

"La Festa Degli Innamorati"

The Feast of Lovers – or as we know it here in America, St. Valentine's Day. This holiday is celebrated here as well as in Italy in many of the same ways. Although in Italy this feast is just for Lovers, while in America children join in on the celebrating by showing affection for friends and family.

ORDER SONS & DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA ITALIAN HERITAGE LODGE #2517 2019-2020 OFFICERS

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(This position is also open for anyone interested)

Sentinel: Vacant

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Membership Chair: Sharon Strauchs

Webmaster: Joe La Marca

Master of Ceremonies: Roy Schender

Mistress of Ceremonies: Vacant

Lodge Members Serving on the Grand Council of Virginia: Joseph Scafetta, Jr., Former State President

Coletta Sciscilo, Second Vice-President Marianne Hallahan, Trustee John Asiello, Arbitration Committee Tony Musco, Arbitration Committee

FUTURE LODGE EVENTS

February 14 St. Valentine's Day

February 15 President's Day

February 17 Ash Wednesday – Lent Begins

February 24 Happy Hour 6:00 – 7:00 PM Via Zoom

March 15 GLVA 7:00 PM Via Zoom

Quarterly Meeting

Buon Compleanno e Tanti Auguri!



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Charles Gioglio February 11
Roy Schender February 12
Dot Saia February 17
Mary Gioglio February 25

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES



John & Laura Asiello February 17

HL Treasurer - If there is anyone who would like to volunteer for this position, please let Dawn know <u>as</u> soon as possible so a transition can be made smoothly.

We will schedule another "Happy Hour" for our members to get together virtually and share their quarantine experiences, what we are looking forward to in the New Year, and other thoughts and wishes! The date is Wednesday, February24th from 6:00-7:00 pm. You will receive an email with the link to join in!

Italian Language Program of Northern VA – Elisabetta Lazarte, our lodge Education Chair, has sent out her upcoming schedule for the Winter 2020 language program, starting soon. Please contact her at elisabettalazarte@gmail.com or (703) 887-1995 to obtain the schedule of varying levels of language instruction, dates and times, and tuition costs. Classes will take place online via ZOOM.US. Elisabetta conveys "as always, and evermore, I am thankful to all of you for wanting to learn the ITALIAN language and Culture!"

Dear Members and friends,

For the time being, all future events will be indefinitely postponed until it is safe to socialize. These will include the following events:

Monthly In-Person Executive Council Meetings
Monthly Lunch Bunch
Monthly IHL Italian Language Group
Installation of Officers Dinner and Ceremony
Casino Night
Meet & Greet Spaghetti Dinner
A Night of Italian Music
Bocce Event
White Elephant
Summer Picnic

If this was a "normal" February in Italy and you were the least bit curious about life there right about now, here are some thoughts about some things you might do and see.

Carnevale in Italia – This most popular festival of Italy comes 40 days before Easter and lasts for several weeks. Although Venice and Viareggio have the most well-known celebrations, Carnevale is celebrated throughout Italy in different ways.

Cioccolentino (Terni) – You will be thinking of some romantic treats for your Valentine and this event puts the "sweet" into sweetheart. A festival that is packed with chocolate and sweet tasting things and themes with insights into the various methods and traditions of making Italian chocolates and pastries.

Visit Florence – if you are a wine lover – for Chianti Lovers to preview wines currently around Italy. The Cavaniglia Pavilion in the Fortezza da Basso is transformed into a temple to wine!

San Remo Song Festival – this five night competition called "Festival della canzone Italiana in Sanremo" began in 1950 and has certainly made many Italian singers and songs famous.

Then there are several festivals of saints – Festa di Sant'Agata (Catania, Sicily), Saint Biagio Day, Saint Valentino (Terni), Saint Faustino's Day (Brescia).

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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, by searching "Walk Rome Mignani" Website: www.walk-rome.com

FM

Frances E. Mazarella, (Francesca)

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