



# La Bandiera

*The Banner*



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

## **MARZO 2020 MESSAGGIO DALLA PRESIDENTESSA**

*Cari amici,*

*Spring is just around the corner.....according to Punxsutawney Phil and I think we're all ready for some warmer temperatures. Terrible to see the ravages of the Coronavirus in Italy, from the cancellation of Carnevale and some major soccer games to the empty grocery store shelves. Let's pray this terrible virus is contained soon for everyone.*

*At our last meeting we celebrated Carnevale di Venezia and it was a fun night. We learned a bit about the customs and history of Carnevale and the masks and Bellini's were a hit. A big thank you to all that came to celebrate Carnevale.*

*Our next meeting on March 14th will be for the installation of new officers. We'll have a catered dinner provided by Mama Lucia's. Please come and support your fellow members as we install new officers for the 2020-2021 term. If you're interested in getting involved with lodge activities please don't miss this night.*

*See you on the 14th.*

*Best regards,  
Dawn*



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

<u>President:</u>	Dawn Falsinotti	<u>Lodge Trustees:</u>
703-362-1724	falsinotti@yahoo.com	Rosalie Ciccotelli
<u>Vice-President:</u>	Joe Cardinale	John Dovel
703-910-7163	joe.cardinale@italianheritagelodge.org	Marianne Hallahan
<u>Imm. Past-President:</u>	Colette Sciscilo	Dennis Lillo
703-795-2231	colette.sciscilo@gmail.com	Nancy Perrelli
<u>Orator:</u>	Fred Michaelangelo	
703-323-8294	amichaelangelo@msn.com	
<u>Recording Secy:</u>	Eleanor Lillo	
703-354-2454	delillo1@verizon.net	
<u>Financial Secy:</u>	Dot Saia	
703-978-8499	dmjcs@cox.net	
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Cynthia Williams	

Publicity Chair: Joe La Marca  
[joe.lamarca@italianheritagelodge.org](mailto:joe.lamarca@italianheritagelodge.org)  
(This position is also open for anyone interested)

Sentinel: Sal Guli

Education Chair: Elisabetta Lazarte  
Elisabettalazarte@gmail.com

Membership Chair:

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

**SAVE THE DATES - FUTURE LODGE EVENTS**

March 11	Lunch Bunch	Noon	Chuy's Mexican Restaurant 11219 Lee Highway, Fairfax
March 14	Installation of Officers Dinner and Ceremony	4:30 P.M.	K of C Hall
March 15	GLVA Quarterly Meeting	11:00 A.M.	Giuseppe Verdi Lodge
March 18	Executive Council Meeting	7:00 P.M.	George Mason Library Annandale
March 28	IHL Language Group	6:00 P.M.	The Linder's home
<b>April 1</b>	<b>Virginia OSIA Foundation Scholarship Deadline</b>		
April 4	Casino Night	6:30 P.M.	K of C Hall
May 9	A Night of Italian Music	6:30 P.M.	K of C Hall
June (TBD)	Bocce & Picnic	11:00 A.M.	The Lillo's home
July (TBD)	(TBD)		
August 8	(TBD)		
August (TBD)	Hall Stripping & Waxing Floors		
<b>September 19</b>	Meet & Greet Spaghetti Dinner	6:30 P.M.	K of C Hall
October 10	(TBD)		
November 14	(TBD)		
December 12	Festa di Natale	6:00 P.M.	K of C Hall

*Here is an update for our members on IHL's  
2019 4<sup>th</sup> quarter charitable donations:*

<i>Our charities [Alzheimer's, Cooley's Anemia, Autism]:</i>	<i>\$1,490.00</i>
<i>House of Mercy Food Pantry:</i>	<i>100.00</i>
<i>Hospital for Sick Children:</i>	<i><u>697.00</u></i>
	<i>\$2,287.00</i>

## Buon Compleanno



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Alice Ess	March 5
Carol Goldstone	March 5
Rosalie Alligood	March 13
Sharon Strauchs	March 14

## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Stephen & Elaine Balducci  
March 1

### *To Our Members:*

*The process of filling open IHL Council positions for the FY 2020-2021 term is complete and the nominations were voted on at our February lodge meeting. Here is the list of incoming Officers, Trustees and Chairpersons:*

*President: Dawn Falsinotti  
Vice President: Francesco Falsinotti  
Immediate Past President: Coletta Sciscilo  
Orator: Fred Michaelangelo  
Recording Secretary: Eleanor Lillo  
Financial Secretary: Laura Strong  
Treasurer: Cynthia Williams*

*Trustees: John Dovel  
Marianne Hallahan  
Dennis Lillo  
Nancy Perrelli  
Dot Saia*

*Sentinal:  
Master of Ceremonies:  
Publicity Chair:  
Education Chair:  
Membership Chair:*

*Sal Guli  
Roy Schender  
Joe La Marca  
Elisabetta Lazarte  
Sharon Strauchs*

*No organization can exist without the active participation and support of its members. Ellie and I greatly appreciate the assistance of our members in filling these positions for the upcoming year.*

*Dennis Lillo, Nominations Committee Chair*

## **ATTENZIONE !**

### **Upcoming events.....**

The next IHL Lunch Bunch will meet at Noon on **Wednesday, March 11, 2020**, at Chuy's Mexican Restaurant located at 11219 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Chuy's serves some of the best Tex-Mex entrees in Northern Virginia, and the décor and the friendly wait staff adds to the fun. Come join with your fellow IHLers at one of our favorites and one of our generous contributors to our Casino Night prizes. Call Dennis at 703-354-2454 or email to [delillo1@verizon.net](mailto:delillo1@verizon.net) if you plan to attend so he may include you in the reservation.

**The IHL Italian Language Group** – Grazie to Dennis and June Ferraro for their hospitality in hosting our February language group. Dennis prepared for us a game of “Sciarada” (Charades) – but with a twist – you ARE allowed to speak – in Italian! It was great fun as we drew cards and either acted out or used our Italian language skills to help others guess the word or phrase. Dinner was wonderful, as usual! Our next Italian Language group dinner and meeting will be Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at the home of Carol Ann and Ken Linder. Contact [joe.lamarca@italianheritagelodge.org](mailto:joe.lamarca@italianheritagelodge.org) for the location of our March meeting and for more information about the upcoming schedule and becoming part of our language group for some fun with your fellow lodge brothers and sisters. Potential new group members are always welcome to join us!

**Installation of 2020-2021 Officers, Ceremony and Dinner** – This year's installation ceremony and dinner will take place on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at the Knights Hall. Two flyers are at the end of the newsletter with all details regarding dinner menu and costs, time, etc. For catering purposes, **we must have an RSVP by March 7<sup>th</sup>** if you plan to attend. Please join us as we give our outgoing members a “GRAZIE” for their hard work and dedication and wish “BUONA FORTUNA” to our incoming officers for the upcoming year.

We are coming up on our deadline for the Grand Lodge of Virginia OSDIA Scholarships awarded by the Virginia OSIA Foundation. **April 1, 2020** is the deadline for submitting applications for the three Scholarships available: Virginia OSIA Foundation Scholarship, Joseph Fulton Memorial Scholarship and John .F Asiello Scholarship – each at \$1,000. An applicant must be a United States citizen of Italian heritage, by parent, grandparent or great-grandparent and is not required to be a resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Copy and download the application, which is good for all of the above scholarships, at [vaosia.org](http://vaosia.org) and click on SCHOLARSHIPS.

## **CASINO NIGHT**

**On April 4<sup>th</sup>**, IHL will host Casino Night at the Knights of Columbus Hall/St. Leo Church. This fun evening is very popular and features card playing, game tables, food and drinks - - - but the main focus is on our charities. This annual fundraiser assists in 100% of our donations going to Alzheimer's, Cooley's Anemia, Autism and scholarship funds. As an attachment to your email, you will find three flyers with all of the details for this event. One of the flyers is a letter that can be taken to a local merchant/sponsor for the purpose of obtaining gift cards, gift certificates or items (gift baskets, wine, etc.). These items will be used as “prizes” for all of our game winners. Our sponsors have been very generous in the past and we hope they will be once again. New sponsors are always welcome. Once you have secured an item, please call or email Ellie Lillo as she is compiling a list of prizes and their sponsors. Be sure to let the sponsor know that 100% of the casino money goes to our charities and that we are very thankful for their gifts.





*“Una Notte di Musica Italiana” We are happy to announce that again this year IHL will present a night of Italian music. This event was so well received last April and our singer, Tess Florek, so enjoyed performing for us that she is excited to make a return engagement. The event will take place at the Knights Hall on Saturday evening, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. If you love the music of our beloved Italy, and want to spend an enjoyable evening of dinner and music, put this date on your calendar and invite your family and guests. A flyer will be forthcoming with more details.*

*Our Education Chair and Director of the Italian Language Program of Northern Virginia, Elisabetta Lazarte, has announced her Winter semester offering classes at various locations and for levels ranging from Beginner to Intermediate Advanced Italian language, which includes Reading “Movie Time” this semester. As Elisabetta notes “Italian is more fun when we are together”, so please contact her at [elisabettalazarte@gmail.com](mailto:elisabettalazarte@gmail.com) or 703-887-1995 to inquire about the upcoming Winter semester, registration information and future language programs and schedules.*

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**BY-LAWS OF THE ITALIAN HERITAGE LODGE, NO. 2517  
AS OF MARCH 18, 2001**

*Dear Members,*

*Former State President and IHL member, Joseph Scafetta, Jr., was kind enough to meet with me in January to review our lodge Bylaws, which if you visit our website, have not been made current since 2001. After Joe’s thorough review, he and I met so that he could explain some issues and articles which need to be amended. Joe found a variety of typographical and grammatical errors, which can be corrected by me, but he also found several articles that needed approval by our members to be amended. These articles were published in the February 2020 IHL Newsletter and voted on at our February lodge meeting. I thank you all for your input and for voting for your approval of these amendments. The next step is to incorporate these changes into the Bylaws by revising and forwarding them to Paul Siebeking, Orator of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, so that they can be approved at the March Quarterly meeting.*

*In the next Newsletter, I will apprise you all if our IHL Bylaws are accepted and approved, then they will be replaced on our website as the current IHL Bylaws.*

*Sincerely,*

*Coletta Sciscilo*

*Immediate Past President*

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**NIAF CASTING CALL**

*Twister Film, an Italian production company, is looking for Italian American families in New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Chicago and Detroit, who still have a love for Italy in their hearts for an upcoming TV program. The program will be broadcast in Italy on Rete 4 and worldwide on Mediaset Italia. The casting is open to families of Italian origin, both first generation and later, provided that at least one of the family members speaks Italian. All family members will be called to show that, while living far from Italy, it is possible to preserve the rich heritage of Italian traditions: from culture and music, to cooking and art. The families involved will have to show that in their home and in their neighborhood, there is still proof of Italian spirit and style, and at the end of the episode demonstrate that they are the symbol of Italianità in their city. If you're interested, email Sebina at: [sebina.twister@gmail.com](mailto:sebina.twister@gmail.com)*

**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)**

## ***Sophia Loren - A No-Nonsense Icon***

As a child growing up in the 40s and 50s, I remember when our fathers returned from WWII and bought our Grandma the family's first Crossly TV. After every spaghetti and meatball Sunday meal, all 21 of us (first cousins on my mother's side) squeezed into Grandma's living room to watch Ed Sullivan. All of the women in my family were beauticians, and most of the men were barbers, all fashion conscious, trying to fit into American culture, trying not to look "Italian," which to them meant "poor," because they had all grown-up poor. The only Italian spoken was on Sundays, with Grandma. Our parents had been punished in school if they spoke Italian, so gradually, they all lost their mother tongue, focusing on mastering English, on being American. I didn't want to be Italian. Like my parents, I just wanted to fit in, and look and talk like everyone else in the WASP suburban neighborhood into which we had escaped. But Grandma stayed behind. So, to Grandma's house we went, every Sunday of my life.

Grandma didn't dye her hair, try to look younger, wear make-up or follow fashion. She was just "Grandma," the robust, kindly, soft-spoken matriarch of the family, cooking and loving us all. But her daughters, the beauticians, were in a profession dedicated to beauty. Absolutely gorgeous, with hour-glass figures, they found in Sophia Loren what was missing in their Italian immigrant neighborhoods...Respect for Italian women. Once Sophia Loren hit the silver screen, none of the daughters missed her films. She set the standard for them and for their customers! Her photos hung in their beauty shops. When Sophia Loren had a different hairdo in a movie, they copied her, offering Sophia Loren hairdos to their customers. The Ed Sullivan show may have brought us all together on Sunday evenings, but it was Sophia Loren, the beyond-beautiful Italian woman, who gave us pride.

And so it was with both joy and sadness that last November I attended a live interview of Sophia Loren at Montgomery College in Maryland. All I could think of was how sad it was that my mom and her sisters were gone, and that I was about to live their dream...to see her in person! Ten feet away! Just a month before, I watched a television interview between she and her son, Edoardo Ponti, and TIVOed it, watching it over and over. Not surprisingly, she was still beyond beautiful, but oh, so self-assured and direct! She did not flinch when asked about her poor beginnings or about Cary Grant who, as Edoardo put it, "Almost cost me my birth." What I found most moving was that she was so humble, constantly giving credit to others, like her director, Vittorio DeSica, her husband, and leading men, such as Peter O'Toole, who helped her perfect her art.

And so it was not at all a shock to me when, during the audience participation, question-and-answer portion of the interview, she flatly just refused to answer certain, inappropriate personal questions. That's it. Just didn't answer. Or, she bluntly said, "Listen, I am a grandmother, and it is I who determine my legacy for my family," or something to that effect. I wanted to jump up and cheer, "GOOD FOR YOU!" Before my very eyes was an 86 year-old Italian woman still showing us to be strong, find our voice, and when it counts, use it!

Recently, I learned that at the age of 85 (last year), after ten years of not being in a film, that "The Life Ahead" ("La Vita davanti a se"), directed by none other than her son, Edoardo, is about to be released. NetFlix purchased the world-wide rights. In it, she plays a Holocaust survivor. This "no apologies" lady, our icon, is still not just a pretty face, but herself a survivor. Sophia Villani Scicolone (her real name) honors every single woman by her example of gratefulness, courage, dignity, and most of all, honesty. THESE virtues are epitomized in all societies for all people, but oh, how very lucky we Italian women are that she was and IS still there for us.

**Sharon Colonello Peruzzi Strauchs, 3/1/2020**

**In honor of my mother, Yolanda Madeline Colonello, who would be 98 years old today.**



*Please join us in wishing our new officers "Buona Fortuna"!*

Italian Heritage Lodge of Fairfax #2517  
2020 – 2021 Installation of Officers  
Dinner & Ceremony



Saturday, March 14, 2020  
Knights of Columbus Hall  
St. Leo's Catholic Church  
3700 Old Lee Highway  
Fairfax, Virginia

4:30 PM – Arrival and Social Begins  
5:30 PM – Dinner Catered by Mamma Lucia's  
6:30 PM – Installation of Officers Ceremony  
7:30 PM – Conclusion of Ceremony

Event Costs: \$20.00 per person,  
\$10.00 Children 6-12; Free to children 5 and under

RSVP by March 7<sup>th</sup> to:  
Eleanor Lillo (703) 354-2454, [delillo1@verizon.net](mailto:delillo1@verizon.net)  
Make checks payable to "Italian Heritage Lodge of Fairfax #2517"  
and mail to: 5104 Colebrook Place, Alexandria, VA 22312



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*Italian Heritage Lodge of Fairfax  
Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America  
2020 Installation of Officers Ceremony & Dinner*

Date: Saturday, March 14, 2020

Location: St. Leo the Great Catholic Church  
3700 Old Lee Highway  
Fairfax, Virginia  
Knights of Columbus Hall (behind the Church)

Time: 4:30 PM – Arrival and Social Begins  
5:15 PM - Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance,  
Blessing before Dinner  
5:30 PM – Dinner (Buffet Line opens)  
6:30 PM – Installation of Officers Ceremony Begins  
7:30 PM – Conclusion of Ceremony

Menu: Catered by Rosa Di Savino, Owner of Mamma Lucia's  
Eggplant Parmigiana ~ Chicken Piccata  
Penne Pasta ~ Roasted Vegetable Medley  
Insalata and Garlic Bread

Desserts: Assorted Italian Specialty Desserts

Beverages: Vino, Sodas, Coffee & Tea

Cost: \$20.00 per adult; \$10 for children ages 6 – 12;  
free for children ages 5 and under

RSVP: Reservations must be made by March 7<sup>th</sup> by phone or email to:  
Eleanor Lillo - (703) 354-2454 / [delillo1@verizon.net](mailto:delillo1@verizon.net)  
Make check payable to "Italian Heritage Lodge of Fairfax #2517"  
Mail check to Eleanor at : 5104 Colebrook Place  
Alexandria, Virginia 22312

# ***“CASINO NIGHT”***

**April 4, 2020 at 6:30 P.M.**

**The April lodge meeting will feature a “Casino” evening.**

**To be successful, the following are required:**

**1. PLAY AND INVITE OTHERS TO PLAY:** We need full participation by our membership for this Charitable Fund Raising event. The more that play the greater the Fun and the greater the Funds collected for Charity. Admission is \$10.00 in real money from each individual in exchange for \$50.00 in play money to bankroll gaming for the evening. Additional \$5.00 packets of play money will be available during the evening. I know that all our dealers will be very customer friendly and you will have a great time so don't miss it. You may want to invite friends or potential members to this fun event which will help to increase our financial success. At the conclusion of the games, winners, in the order of their winnings, will select their winning prizes.

**2. GET GIFT CERTIFICATES:** We hope to have some of our favorite restaurants donate dinner certificates; however, we ask that each lodge member donate a special item that can also be provided as a prize for the winners' choosing.

Included is a two-page information sheet that can be used by you to contact restaurants and other businesses that you patronize to seek a gift certificates for the event. **PLEASE PRINT AS MANY AS YOU CAN USE.**

**3. BRING FINGER FOOD TO SHARE:** Finally, we will start and continue the evening with finger food snacks and beverages so that people can munch as they move around the gaming tables. A waitress will be available for beverage service so no need to leave the gaming tables.

**“DON'T MISS THIS FUN FILLED EVENING – BRING FRIENDS AND RELATIVES  
TO THIS FUNDRAISER FOR COOLEY'S ANEMIA, ALZHEIMER'S, AUTISM  
AND LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS”**





## **ORDER SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA**

**ITALIAN HERITAGE LODGE OF FAIRFAX #2517**

**Dawn Falsinotti, President**

**[President@italianheritagelodge.org](mailto:President@italianheritagelodge.org)**

**<https://italianheritagelodge.org>**



**March 1, 2020**

**Dawn Falsinotti, President  
Italian Heritage Lodge of Fairfax, #2517**

**Subject: Request for Gift Certificate**

**Dear Management,**

**On behalf of the Officers and members of the Italian Heritage Lodge #2517 Order Sons of Italy in America, we would like to request your support of our fundraising event for charity.**

**Our annual “Casino Night” fundraising event this year will be held on April 4, 2020. Last year the event was a huge success and we gave out “Gift Certificates” from restaurants and establishments as prizes which helped this to be a major financially rewarding charitable venture.**

**Our targeted charities for this year are Alzheimer’s disease, Cooley’s Anemia, Autism and Local Scholarships. It will be rewarding for you to know that 100% of all monies collected will go directly to these charities.**

**Support from our sponsors is the major reason for our organization’s financial ability to give generously to these charities and our members have been asked to patronize our sponsors, both verbally and in our published Newsletter “La Bandiera.”**

**We hope that you will provide a “Gift Certificate” in support of our Charities. One of our members will be contacting you soon should you desire to participate this year.**

**We thank you in advance for your generosity,**

**Dawn Falsinotti  
President  
(703) 362-1724**

# CHARITY EVENT

Sponsored by the  
*Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America*  
*Italian Heritage Lodge of Fairfax #2517*

Enjoy yourself at our next fun event

***“CASINO NIGHT”***



**Saturday April 4, 2020**

Join us and have a great time playing our variation of CASINO games:  
Stud Poker, Over & Under, Black Jack, Beat the Dealer and more.

**REMEMBER WE USE “PLAY MONEY” AND WINNERS RECEIVE  
GIFTS donated by members and local businesses.**

This is a “Finger food event” fare, so bring your favorite hors d’oeuvres,  
finger food, cheese & crackers, and desserts.  
The Lodge will have wine, soda, coffee, tea, hot chocolate,  
and the evening’s Signature Drink.

**Where: Knights of Columbus Hall behind St. Leo’s Church  
3700 Old Lee Highway in Fairfax.**

**Time: 6:30 PM - Games will start as soon as guests are ready  
and then the real FUN begins.**

**Admission: \$10.00 donation for \$50.00 in Play Money (Purchase more as desired)**

**Charities: 100% of the proceeds support our charities such  
as Alzheimer’s, Cooley’s Anemia, Autism and  
Local Scholarships Programs.**

**PLEASE COME AND BRING A FRIEND**

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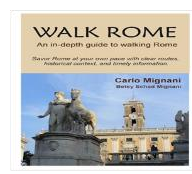


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