



La Bandiera

The Banner



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

**NOVEMBRE 2021
MESSAGGIO DELLA PRESIDENTESSA**

Dear friends,

After a very busy October, we will slow down...only a bit.

This month on November 13th, IHL will celebrate its 40th Anniversary. We will have a catered dinner and party at the Knight's Hall. All are welcome as we reminisce and celebrate this milestone. Please see the flyer that has been sent and rsvp to Eleanor Lillo.

Due to Covid the Christmas Party will be scaled back to include adults only. As for the past few years, it will be catered by Mama Lucia's. In the spirit of giving we will ask for attendees to bring an unwrapped gift (\$10-\$15) for a child to be delivered to the Hospital For Sick Children in Washington, D.C. We are working to secure entertainment and have a very festive occasion. More details to follow shortly.

This month we're going to visit two new places for Lunch Bunch and Happy Hour: The Swiss Bakery and Lazy Dog Restaurant. Both are cool places with great food.

Please read through this newsletter. There is a lot of topical and newsworthy information of what is happening in our community.

See you all at the 40th celebration.

*Best regards,
Dawn*

BENVENUTI!

***IHL welcomes two new members –
Suzanne Mitchell and Michael Gering
We are excited to have you both as part of our IHL family
and look forward to seeing you at future events.***

**ORDER SONS & DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA
ITALIAN HERITAGE LODGE #2517
2021-2022 OFFICERS**

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Vacant

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Sharon Peruzzi Strauchs

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Webmaster:

Joe La Marca

Master of Ceremonies: Roy Schender

Mistress of Ceremonies: **Vacant**

Lodge Trustees:

Loretta D'Amico

John Dovel

Marianne Hallahan

Nancy Perrelli

Vacant

Lodge Members Serving on the Grand Council of Virginia:

Joseph Scafetta, Jr., Former State President

Marianne Hallahan, Trustee

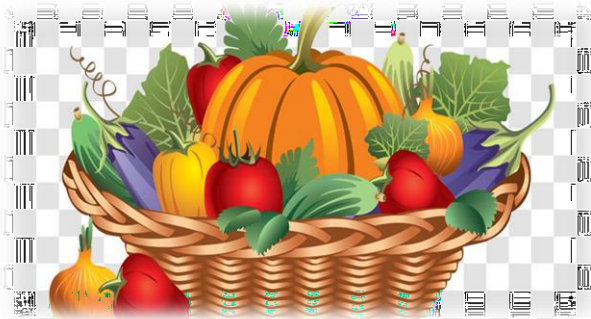
John Asiello, Arbitration Committee

FUTURE LODGE EVENTS

November 10	Lunch Bunch	Noon	The Swiss Bakery & Pastry Shop 5224 Port Royal Road Ravensworth Shopping Center Springfield
November 11	VETERAN'S DAY		
November 13	IHL 40 th Anniversary Celebration Food Pantry Donations	6:00 PM	Knights of Columbus Hall
November 17	Council Meeting	7:00 PM	ZOOM
November 18	Happy Hour	5:30 PM	Lazy Dog Restaurant 11963 U Fair Oaks Shop. Center Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax
November 25	HAPPY THANKSGIVING		
December 11	FESTA di NATALE	6:00 PM	Knights Of Columbus Hall

Join your IHL friends for this month's "Lunch Bunch" on Wednesday, November 10 at noon at The Swiss Bakery and Pastry Shop, located in the Ravensworth Shopping Center, 5224 Port Royal Road, Springfield. RSVP to President Dawn (falsinotti@yahoo.com) to make your reservation.

For Happy Hour this month – Thursday, November 18 at 5:30 p.m. – we will be dining at the Lazy Dog Restaurant & Bar, 11963 U Fair Oaks Shopping Center, located at Fair Oaks Mall. Our Happy Hours have become quite popular!



In the months of October and November, at our monthly meetings, we will be asking for food donations to assist the "House of Mercy" Food Pantry. Baskets will be set out on November 13th (40th Anniversary Dinner) so that donations can be collected for this local food pantry. We have done this in the past as we came close to the Thanksgiving season and our members have shown much generosity. Please bring any items that are packaged, canned, or boxed such as soups, rice, pasta, peanut butter & jelly, cereals, etc. No fresh foods, please! If you missed the opportunity in October, we will be collecting again on November 13th, just in time for "Thanks-giving." As IHL resumes events we are grateful for the opportunity to once again assist our community as a fraternal organization.

Buon Compleanno
e Tantí Augurí!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Judith Palmiotto November 6
Ken Linder November 18

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



Francesco & Dawn Falsinotti November 5
Charles & Maureen Romano November 21
(Happy Fiftieth Anniversary!)
Dennis & Eleanor Lillo November 26
Steven & Ann Lipton November 30

NATIONAL CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS ASSOCIATION CEREMONY

The Italian Heritage Lodge (IHL) of Fairfax, Virginia, #2517 of the Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America, participated in the National Christopher Columbus Association (NCCA) Ceremony honoring the accomplishments of Christopher Columbus on Columbus Day, Monday, October 11, 2021. The annual event, in collaboration with the National Park Service, was held at the Columbus Memorial in front of the Union Station in Washington, D.C.

Members of the public in attendance were treated to patriotic music, the national anthems of the United States, Italy, and Spain, remarks by various diplomats and dignitaries, as well as the reading of the winning essay and presentation of awards to Joseph Stetson, Steubenville, Ohio, this year's winner of the NCCA and the National Italian-American Foundation Essay Contest on Christopher Columbus. Together with many other prominent organizations, the IHL placed a wreath in front of the Columbus Memorial.

After the ceremony, Dawn Falsinotti, IHL President, was presented with a Certificate of Membership in the NCCA "for the purpose of recognizing the historic achievements and discoveries of Christopher Columbus" by James P. McCusker, NCCA President



IHL officers stand in front of Union Station after the Columbus Day ceremony.

From left to right, they are Trustee Marianne Hallahan, Immediate Past President Nicolette Sciscilo, President Dawn Falsinotti, Trustee Loretta D'Amico, and Recording Secretary Eleanor Lillo.



Nicolette Sciscilo, center, IHL Immediate Past President, presents a wreath in front of the Columbus Memorial. She is flanked, from left to right, by a Columbus actor, a Knight of Columbus escort, NCCA President James P. McCusker, and a second Knight of Columbus escort.

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Members of the Italian Heritage Lodge (IHL) of Fairfax, Virginia, #2517 of the Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America, walked a two-mile course through Historic Old Town Manassas, Virginia, on Saturday, October 16, 2021, to raise funds to end Alzheimer's Disease and all other forms of dementia, with many other supporters who know or have lost family members to Alzheimer's.

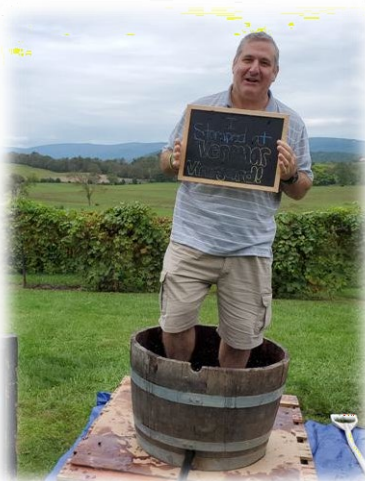
As a fraternal organization, the IHL supports this organization through its yearly charitable fundraising. It takes the opportunity to participate in a local "walk" to visibly support awareness of this worthy cause.



VERAMAR WINERY October 9, 2021



Membership Chairwoman
Sharon Peruzzi Strauchs



Master of Ceremonies
Roy Schender



Roy showing us how it's done!



Sandy Schender enjoying a
beautiful winery setting



Saturday night's meeting and Italian Movie Night also included a chance for members to show off their Halloween costumes, some of which were scary, but all of which were definitely original and very well put together. Our October Food Drive for the House of Mercy Food Panty brought in a tremendous amount of packaged and canned food items displaying once again the generosity of our members. Thanks to all who made the evening quite fun!



The Election of Lodge Officers for 2021-2022

The Lodge will elect officers early next year for the 2021-2022 term. The following timetable is set out in the Lodge's By-Laws for the election of officers:

November, 2021 – The President will appoint three members to serve on the Nominating Committee

December, 2021 – The Chairman of the Nominating Committee shall report the nominations from the Committee. (No nominations can be made from the floor at this meeting.)

January, 2021 – The January Newsletter will carry the results of the Nominating Committee. Members may nominate from the floor at the January lodge meeting.

February, 2021 – Elections are held – no more nominations are permitted except in the case of withdraw.

March, 2021 – The newly elected officers are installed.

Any lodge members interested in serving on the Italian Heritage Lodge council for this period please notify a member of the Nominating Committee of your desire to serve on the council for the 2021-2022 term .

As a member of The National Italian American Foundation (NIAF), our Membership Chairwoman Sharon Strauchs sends out this information for their current Virtual Italian American Film Festival:

Thursday, November 4 at 7:00 p.m.: BIG CITY, Little Italy
BIG CITY, Little Italy documents the history, culture, food and traditions of six important Little Italy's throughout our country

Google www.NIAF.org and information@t.niaf.org to register for these films and for information about future events.

OSDIA “NATIONAL LEADERSHP GRANTS”

Through the Sons of Italy Foundation (SIF), and hundreds of thousands of family members located in all fifty states and the District of Columbia, the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America (OSDIA) has awarded nearly \$61 million in scholarships to date. In past years, the SIF has offered 10 to 15 merit-based scholarships (National Leadership Grants), ranging from \$4,000 to \$25,000, in a nationwide competition. Last year, students received a total of \$85,000 in merit-based scholarships!

General Information

General Eligibility: *U.S. citizens of Italian descent (at least one Italian or Italian-American grandparent) enrolled in a four year undergraduate program or a graduate program at an accredited academic institution for the Fall 2022 term. Previous SIF scholarship winners are not eligible. Additional eligibility requirements may apply to specific scholarships.*

General Requirements: *Please see each scholarship description for its specific requirements. The following general requirements apply to all scholarships (except where noted):*

- Application Form: Must be submitted along with requirements for each scholarship.*
- Transcripts: For each scholarship, transcripts provided must be through the December 2021 term. All transcripts must be stamped by the institution.*
- Processing Fee: A \$35 non-refundable processing fee is required with each scholarship application. The fee includes a one-year At-Large Membership to OSDIA, with all At-Large Membership benefits.*

Deadline: *The deadline for all scholarships (unless otherwise noted) is February 28, 2022. All requirements for a given scholarship must be met or the application will not be considered. All scholarship materials must be submitted online, and completed applications must be submitted by February 28, 2022. No exceptions will be made. The SIF takes no responsibility for incomplete or late applications.*

Process: *Applications are screened by education professionals. Final selection is made by OSDIA's National Scholarship, Education and Culture Committee. Scholarship recipients will be notified by May 1, 2022. Monetary awards are presented directly to the students' academic institutions in accordance with eligibility requirements.*

Google nationaloffice@osia.org to apply and for further information on these leadership grants.

Meet Our Members

Dawn & Francesco Falsinotti

We met at the Esposito's Pizza & Pasta in Fairfax, table 7. I was working weekends and Francesco, who lived in Maryland, came for dinner with friends. They were my last table of the night. Francesco flirted with me incessantly and the attraction was mutual. I agreed to a date and the rest is history.

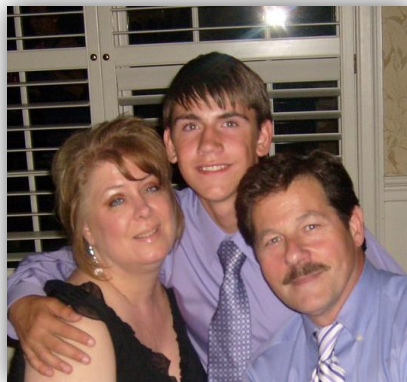
I'm originally from NYC, the Bronx, and spent half my childhood there.. All my relatives lived there. My parents moved here in 1970. I went to Catholic school and then public school for my high school years. I graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School, before it became TJ. I moved to Boston in the very early eighties and went to college there. I came back to the area in the late eighties to spend more time with family and friends. I've worked in several industries, Defense, Accounting and for the last 15 years or so, Association Management. My main focus has been membership, small business and conferences and meetings.

Francesco is from a small town in Tuscany, Forte dei Marmi. Andrea Bocelli is also from this town. This area is considered the Italian Riviera and the beach is a big part of the lifestyle. This area is famous for marble and the entire marble industry. Massa Carrara is one town away and is where Michelangelo went to pick the pieces he would turn into masterpieces. It is also famous for sculpture; because of the marble, with many schools of sculpture. Francesco spent his childhood living in a convent with nuns. Post WWII it was not uncommon for parents to board their children at the local convent while they worked. While Francesco was treated well at the convent, it was not a pleasant environment for many of the kids. A lot of abuse committed by the nuns. At 14 he moved back home with his parents and began working as well as attending school. He began a career in marble and developed his skill and proficiency. At 20, he went into the Army for a couple of years and then came home and got married. The marriage produced two daughters. With his sought after expertise he began working in the Middle East for Kings and Princes, in their palaces adorned with lots of marble. His marriage fell apart and he accepted a short term job in Miami. He dreamed of coming to America and here he was. He then landed a job in Maryland and he's still here.

We married in 1994 and on November 5th will celebrate 27 years. Together we have one son, Alex. Francesco's daughters both live in the UK. One is a nun and the other lives and works in London. Through the years we've traveled extensively through Europe. We both love history and it always has a place in our travels. Growing up in Italy, Francesco is a big soccer fan and his team is Inter Milan. Our son is a big fan of Manchester United. Soccer is on every weekend. I enjoy cooking, especially Italian cuisine, reading, needlepoint and arts and crafts, We are big animal lovers and have two dogs, Bella and Molly, a cat named Tiger, who is beyond spoiled and a 20 year old Cockatiel named Mickey. We recently lost our beloved Patrick. He was old and had a fabulous life. Many refer to our house as the Bronx zoo.

We enjoy the camaraderie of the lodge and getting to know people who share many common interests, especially of all things Italian.

Dawn & Francesco Falsinotti



Ricetta per la ribollita

La ribollita è un tipico piatto toscano, che ha le sue origini nel lontano Medioevo. Dopo il loro ricco pranzo, infatti, i nobili davano il pane avanzato ai servi, che lo univano alle loro povere verdure (patate, cavolo, piselli, zucchine, fagioli) e lo facevano bollire, ottenendo una zuppa saporita. Possiamo dire che questa zuppa è la “nonna” della ribollita! Ancora oggi questa ricetta fa parte della cucina casalinga in tutta la Toscana.



Ingredienti per 4 persone:

Parsley and onion to make the mixture
300 grams of black cabbage
1 savoy cabbage
400 grams of carrots
500 grams of potatoes
1 small celery

200 grams of peas
4/5 zucchine
500 grams of white beans
Half a jar of tomato puree
500 grams of bread

Preparazione:

The first step is to cut the parsley and onion into small pieces and put them in the oil.

After a few minutes, add the vegetables: start with the kale and the savoy cabbage.

Once the kale and cabbage begin to cook, add half a jar of tomato puree to the pot.

Then the carrots, and then the celery, potatoes, zucchinis and peas.

Finally, the white beans, which should be cooked alone, and now can be added to the other ingredients.

When the soup is cooked (at least an hour to be calculated) the bread is cut (traditionally it is old bread) and a layer of bread and a layer of vegetables are placed in a bowl, so several layers. Everything must rest at least 30 minutes.

Ribollita is a typical Tuscan dish, which has its origins in the distant Middle Ages. After their rich lunch, in fact, the nobles gave the leftover bread to the servants, who combined it with their poor vegetables (potatoes, cabbage, peas, courgettes, beans) and boiled it, obtaining a tasty soup. We can say that this soup is the "grandmother" of ribollita. Even today this recipe is part of home cooking throughout Tuscany.

ALMA Edizioni

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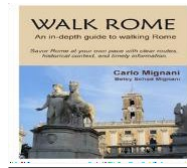
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CARLO AND BETSY MIGNANI have written
a valuable guide to assist tourists who want
to explore the Eternal City on their own with
historical context and timely information.
Available on Amazon, search "Walk Rome
Mignani." www.walk-rome.com

FM

Frances E. Mazarella, (Francesca)

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