



La Bandiera

The Banner



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

OTTOBRE 2018

MESSAGGIO DALLA PRESIDENTESSA
ITALIAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Cari amici,

In the month of September, IHL members, families and guests were treated to two events celebrating our Italian culture and friendships. Both the Meet and Greet Spaghetti Dinner and Annual Family Picnic were well attended, we made some new friends, and members, and welcomed Professor Emeritus Carmine Vittoria, who spoke about his new book of life in Naples, Italy during WWII. It was a pleasure to meet his family and guests, and he was very pleased to have signed and sold many books. I am very thankful to all of those who came early to set up our room and those who stayed late to clean up: John, Laura, Dennis, Eleanor, Augie, Fred, Dot, Rosalie; our servers: Marianne and Sandy; our kitchen staff: Marianne, Sandy, Elisabetta and Gabriella; our Technical team who assisted Sr. Vittoria with his slide presentation: David, Joe and Roy; and especially our Chef, Dawn, and her sous chef, Francesco, whose tremendous efforts produced a most delicious authentic Italian meal. I requested that our council members donate desserts and I thank them also for their scrumptious contributions. This past Sunday was a glorious day weather-wise which afforded the picnic attendees to truly enjoy the grounds while dining al fresco as well as a very serious bocce championship game and beautiful Italian music. Grazie mille to John, Laura, Steve, Dawn and Ellie for all of your hard work with food prep; to Dennis, Roy, Augie, Steve, David, Tomasso, George, David, Joan, John. . . . I am sure I have forgotten someone, but all of you either came early to set up or stayed after the picnic to put the hall and grounds back in order – and many more who lent a hand. Ellie did a great job at the welcoming table as well as the 50/50 and gift certificate auction table. SO MUCH effort goes into these events and they would not be successful without the generous efforts and sacrifices of all of you!

*** * * * ATTENZIONE * * * ***

Unfortunately our October 13th Winery Tour and Tasting at Fabboli Cellars will be canceled. I want to especially thank Joe and Sharon Cardinale for their good efforts to arrange the event with their friend and owner, Doug Fabboli.

Forse l'anno prossimo?

Our member Elisabetta Lazarte is the Program Director and Instructor of the Italian Language Program of Northern Virginia. She is announcing that, through the assistance of John Asiello and the Knights of Columbus of St. Leo Church, her language program will be holding NEW BEGINNER classes at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Please call Elisabetta at 703-887-1995 or email her at bsmile24@aol.com for the start date and times of these new classes (January 2019), more information on registering, and other classes offered in the program.

Further along in this month's Newsletter I have featured a review of the book "Baseball Italian Style", written by Lawrence Baldassaro, AND reviewed by our own Joseph Scafetta, Jr. I hope you enjoy Sonny's review, and even if you are not a baseball lover (like many of us are...), you will appreciate the fine job Sonny did reviewing this book about the important pastime in the lives of Italian Americans.

I vostri pensieri e preghiere per favore.....

♥ *Our oldest member, Sarafina Peroni, passed away recently. Many of you did not know her and did not have the opportunity to meet her. Sara was the age of 100 when she joined IHL with her granddaughter Robin. She was truly a lovely and classy lady whom I know will be greatly missed by her family and friends. Rest in Peace, Sara.*

♥ *Laura Asiello will turn 80 this month! Please join me in wishing Laura a joyful celebration of her beautifully blessed life. We love you, Laura!*

♥ *Roy will be undergoing a second surgery in late October. I know that Sandy and their children would appreciate our prayers for a successful surgery and quick recovery.*

♥ *Fred Michaelangelo informed me that he was suffering from a detached retina (not the first time). Fred we wish you well in your recovery and offer our assistance as requested.*

*Con affetto!
Coletta*

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Mistress of Ceremonies: Renee Signorelli

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Webmaster: Joe La Marca

Lodge Member Serving on the Grand Council of Virginia: Marianne Hallahan

SAVE THE DATES - FUTURE LODGE EVENTS

OCTOBER IS ITALIAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

October 8	<i>Christopher Columbus Day</i>		
October 8	National Columbus Day Ceremony	10:45 A.M.	Columbus Plaza at Union Station, Washington, D.C.
October 10	Lunch Bunch	Noon	Kilroy's Restaurant 5250-A Port Royal Road Springfield, VA
October 17	Council Meeting	7:00 P.M.	George Mason Library, Annandale
October 20	Fall Celebration	6:30 P.M.	Knights of Columbus Hall
November 10	Walk-A-Thon Lunch	11:00 A.M. Noon	Fair Oaks Mall Sushi On 11717 Fair Oaks Mall
November 10	Pizza & Movie Night	6:30 P.M.	Knights of Columbus Hall
November 14	Lunch Bunch	Noon	TBD
December 9	GLVA Quarterly Meeting	11:00 A.M.	Giuseppe Verdi Lodge
December 12	Lunch Bunch	Noon	TBD
December 15	Festa di Natale	6:00 P.M.	Knights of Columbus Hall

Buon Compleanno **OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

Laura Asiello	October 6
Kevin Brady	October 8
Marisa Scala	October 11
Paul Alligood	October 13
Kathleen Caggiano	October 14
Bruno DiConi	October 21
Dolly Dougherty	October 22
Colette Sciscilo	October 22
Joe Signorelli	October 27
Joseph Scafetta III	October 28



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Buon Anniversario !



Kenneth & Carol Ann Linder	October 4
Frank & Susan Bonsiero	October 6
Joe & June La Marca	October 6
Chris & Cynthia Williams	October 8
Peter & Kathleen Ognibene	October 10
David & Laura Strong	October 18
Art & Gloria Moscatello	October 22

LODGE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Columbus Day in the Nation's Capital - The National Columbus Day Ceremony in honor of Christopher Columbus, takes place on Monday, October 8. A music prelude begins at 10:45 a.m. and the program begins at 11:00 a.m. This public event takes place at Columbus Plaza, Union Station, Washington, D.C. and is sponsored by the National Christopher Columbus Association, Inc. George Washington Lodge will participate and our members are welcome to join them at the ceremony.

The October Lunch Bunch will meet on Wednesday, October 10th at noon at Kilroy's Restaurant, located in Ravensworth Shopping Center, 5250-A Port Royal Road, Springfield (just outside the beltway on Braddock Road). Kilroy's is a family friendly restaurant with WWII themed posters featuring basic American fare off an extensive menu - with something for everyone. Please come and join your fellow IHL members for lunch. Call Dennis at 703-354-2454 or email him at delillo1@verizon.net if you plan to attend.

The IHL Italian Language Group monthly meet-up is generally held on the fourth Saturday of each month. We are always looking for new members with some knowledge of Italian language to join us at our monthly Language Group meeting, enjoy the camaraderie, the food, the value of vocabulary building and the practice of conversing in Italian. Contact joe.lamarca@italianheritagelodge.org for more information about becoming part of our language group.

FALL CELEBRATION - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20TH - We want to be sure that you have a fulfilling experience as members of the lodge. Since our winery tour and tasting was canceled, we are offering a Fall Celebration in the month of October. Please see the flyer at the end of this Newsletter. We hope you can join us as we celebrate Italian-American Heritage Month during October.

WALK-A-THON - SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10th - (New Date) This is the time of year that we sponsor our Walk-A-Thon for our three charities - Alzheimer's, Cooley's Anemia and Autism. We meet at Fair Oaks Mall, lower level, outside of Sears and walk the mall distance to the other end where we meet up with our friends and members for lunch at Sushi On. If you can join us, please do! If you cannot, your generous participation is much appreciated. Our form for contributions is attached at the end of the Newsletter. This fundraiser is on-going until mid-December. At that time, our Financial Secretary will forward your contributions to the Virginia OSIA Foundation for disbursement to the three charities. All of the information is on the flyer, but please call either Colette or Eleanor if you have any questions.

BASEBALL ITALIAN STYLE

Written by Lawrence Baldassarro

Reviewed by Joseph Scafetta Jr.

Lawrence Baldassarro is a professor emeritus of Italian at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. Starting in 1993 with Phil Rizzuto, he began a series of personal interviews which he recorded with 44 Italian-American Major Leaguers. Eight of them are in the Hall of Fame.

He conducted the last interview in 2017 with Anthony Rizzo and published this book in early 2018. The oldest players started their careers in the 1930s. Some of the interviewees who started their careers after 2000 are still playing. Because I did not become interested in baseball until 1954 when I was a kid, I had never heard of some of the players from the 1930s and the 1940s. If you read this book and if you are older than me, then you might have heard of all of the interviewees. Although he was not the first person to be interviewed by the author, the first interview appearing in the book is conducted with Frank Crosetti who I had heard of as a kid.


However, because I served on the local, state and national levels of the Commission for Social Justice, I noticed that all of the players from the 1930s and 1940s were the subjects of ethnic slurs. The slurs began to taper off from 1950 to 2000. After 2000, fortunately, none of the players who started their careers in this century stated that they were the objects of derogatory remarks because of their Italian ancestry. For example, Joe DiMaggio was called “the big dago”; Yogi Berra, “ape”; Rico Petrocelli, “guinea”; and Larry Bowa, “wop”.

Besides players, the interviewees include front-office executives, managers, coaches, and umpires. Interestingly, the author does not focus on statistical data but rather on their personal stories, always beginning with their family roots in Italy. Since my father was an immigrant from the region of Abruzzo, I was surprised by the number of interviewees who claimed roots on either their father’s or their mother’s side from this region. There were 44 fathers and 44 mothers, for a total of 88 parents. If you read this book, I am sure that you too will note the number of interviewees from your own family’s home region.

The book is relatively short at 293 pages, including a two-page Table of Contents, a three-page Preface, a six-page Introduction, and a one-page Appendix at the end listing the 25 interviewees who are in the National Italian-American Sports Hall of Fame. Each interview covers from two to eleven pages, so the book is easy to read. The book is broken into nine chapters, each one covering a decade starting with the 1930s and ending with the current decade of the 2010s.

Moreover, you do not need to be an Italian American to enjoy these oral histories. The author records the dreams of the interviewees’ parents as immigrants and their hopes for their children. No hopes included baseball. It was interesting to note that none of the interviewees were born in Italy, but they all knew the stories of their family experiences, some more than others. Every interview includes a black-and-white photo of the interviewee during his heyday, as I remember them. There are no photos of them now as old men when most of them were interviewed.

After finishing the book, I was so excited about what I had just read that I volunteered to write this one-page summary in the hope that other Italian-American baseball fans will read it too.



*ITALIAN HERITAGE LODGE
FALL CELEBRATION
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20TH, 6:30 P.M.
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL*

Who does not love coming into the season of Autumn?
All of Virginia's seasons bring us some pleasure or other,
but Fall embraces us with gentle breezes that cool us from a warm sun,
crackling fires both inside and outside, the fun of visiting an orchard
to pick your own apples and then returning home to make the first apple
pie of the season, the magnificent colors of changing leaves lining our
streets and highways..... oh, and those wonderful flavors of pumpkin spice
lattes, hot apple cider and scented candles that fill our homes.

IHL will combine the richness of welcoming Autumn
with a kick off to the giving season just ahead of us.

On Saturday, October 20th, please join your fellow lodge members
for a taste of Fall foods and flavors, pumpkin carving contests,
and a Halloween costume party. Bring a dish to share that
reminds you of the bounty of this season. Wear a fun costume
(Christopher Columbus?) to vie for the "best costume" prize!
We will also begin our House of Mercy food pantry contributions
with this event.

*Autumn,
the year's last,
loveliest smile*



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SUBJECT: Walk-A-Thon for Cooley’s Anemia, Alzheimer’s and Autism

A primary function of the Italian Heritage Lodge (IHL) of Fairfax is to act as a fraternal organization to benefit our community. One of the ways we accomplish this each year is to donate funds to three specific charities ---- Cooley’s Anemia, Alzheimer’s, and Autism. This year, our members will participate in a Walk-A-Thon on **Saturday, November 10, 2018 at 11:00 AM** at Fair Oaks Mall as a fundraiser for these charities. We ask that you donate \$10, \$20 or whatever you can afford to support these worthy causes. All funds collected will be donated through the Grand Lodge of Virginia Foundation, Order Sons of Italy in America (OSIA), to one of the above-mentioned charities.

***Make checks payable to the Virginia OSIA Foundation with a mention in the memo line as for which charity/charities the donation is designated. 100% of the funds collected will be forwarded to the Virginia OSIA Foundation. Please mail your fully tax deductible contributions to:**

**Italian Heritage Lodge of Fairfax #2517
 C/O Mr. Dennis Lillo
 5104 Colebrook Place
 Alexandria VA 22312**

Keep a copy of the form below as your receipt. I want to thank you in advance for your generosity and your support for our charitable causes.

Mille grazie,


Coletta Sciscilo, President, IHL

Receipt: Grand Lodge of Virginia Foundation, Order Sons of Italy in America
 5352 Sir Barton Drive
 Virginia Beach, VA 23462

Cooley ’s Anemia	_____	Amount	_____
Alzheimer’s	_____	Amount	_____
Autism	_____	Amount	_____
Date:			

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www.italianamericancommunications.org




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