

“IL GIORNALINO BASILONE”

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF



JULY 2011 EDITION

NAMED BEST NEWSLETTER IN NEW YORK STATE 2011 !

LODGE OFFICERS FOR 2011-2012

PRESIDENT — Patricia M. Summers
VICE PRESIDENT — Joan Tasoglu
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT — Clifford W. Miller
ORATOR — Sebastian Torrigiano
RECORDING SECRETARY — Margaret Maier
FINANCIAL SECRETARY — Carol A. Salvo
TREASURER — Joseph Vultaggio
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY — Dorothy Curto
PRINCIPAL TRUSTEE — Frank J. Salvo
TRUSTEE — Jacqueline C. Costantino
TRUSTEE — Natali Ierardi
TRUSTEE — Luisa Potenza
TRUSTEE — Harold B. VanSise
MASTER OF CEREMONY — Robert Donato
MISTRESS OF CEREMONY — Christine Felice
SENTINEL — Joseph Coniglione

COMMISSIONERS OF ARBITRATION

Janice Gallagher (Commission President)
Vincent Cavaleri ~ Janis Luchetti
Leonard Maddalena ~ Vincenza Vultaggio



LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

June was a busy month starting with the NYS Convention. We were well represented by our delegates (Cliff Miller, Joan Tasoglu, Margaret Maier, Bob and Angela Donato, Madeline Matteucci and your President) and we were happy to celebrate with Brother Carlo when he won the Bene Emeritus award, the highest honor OSIA gives for service and dedication to the Order. Cliff and I serve on the state Membership Committee year-round, Joan serves on the Budget Committee every year which Carlo chairs, Cliff chaired the Electoral Committee and co-chaired the wine tasting contest. We also won the competition for Best Newsletter (the highest award out of six categories) and earned rave reviews for our lodge's social and fundraising activities. Several lodges asked if they could visit us during the coming months, too. We should all be proud of the camaraderie for which we are known throughout the state.

Our Strawberryfest on June 6th was a big success with some really unusual recipes. Thanks to all who prepared something special for us. And if you like to cook or would like a unique gift for someone, check out the beautiful new OSIA cookbook. Sister Madeline M. is taking orders. (Books are \$20 including tax.)

June 15th we had a "Let's Eat Out" night at Sicilia d'Oro restaurant in East Patchogue. With 28 people in attendance, we signed up two new members and found a candidate to represent our lodge at the Queen's Pageant. What a successful night that was!

June 20th our Chinese Auction committee met at the Gallaghers' for a critique meeting. Creative ideas were explored for next year. We just keep getting bigger and better! Guests have given us very positive feed-back, especially about the variety and quality of our prizes. They were also very impressed that we managed to end by 10:30 despite having 252 prizes! We should have next year's date confirmed shortly and can begin preparations for our next event. In the meantime, please save baskets, glass vases and silk flowers for us. (These can be brought to any general meeting.)

June 24th we spent the day at our favorite winery, Laurel Lake. Between karaoke, story telling, wine tasting, snacking and playing a new game, a fun day was enjoyed by all who came. Thank you to Brother Lenny who brought out his karaoke equipment and directed our "show", and also found time for some chess lessons.

On June 26th, Cliff and I represented the lodge at the NYS Scholarship Awards Presentation held at Rockland Community College. Our member, Frank Sirianni, an outstanding student with an impressive resume of community service and church projects, won the Carlo and Anna Matteucci Memorial Scholarship, the Carlo and Madeline Matteucci Family Scholarship and the Sgt. John Basilone Scholarship in Memory of Founder Anthony Prudenti, for a total of \$1200. Congratulations, Frank!

Our bus trip to Showboat on July 18th is filling up nicely. We're leaving from Sonoma Grill at 8 a.m. and the cost is \$30 per person with \$30 back on arrival at the casino. Even if you don't gamble, join us for a fun day walking the boardwalk, enjoying the beach or shopping the outlets. We'll have movies on the way and a 50/50. Snacks are permitted on the bus. Call as soon as possible to reserve a ticket since last year we sold out completely. (567-9493)

Don't forget our friendship garden. Sister Jackie is still encouraging members to share favorite plants. Just bring in whatever you have to our next meeting and take home something new.

Sign up sheets will be passed around at our next meeting for the August C and C as well as the BBQ. Think about what you'd like to bring and save the dates (Aug. 7 and 27).

And note that our July meeting is on the 11th because of the holiday weekend. Please join us for a special power point culture presentation that has been in the works for several weeks now. At that time we will also award our \$500 scholarship to this year's winner, Anthony Costantino, a hard-working student and member of our Youth Group.

Hope to see you all then!

Fraternally,

Patricia

NEXT MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 11TH, 2011

DOORS OPEN 6:30 PM
MEETING STARTS 7:15 PM
SOCIAL TIME 8:30 – 10 PM

ACAMPORA RECREATION CENTER
39 MONTAUK HIGHWAY
BLUE POINT, NY



CULTURE PRESENTATION:

PATRICIA SUMMERS, CHAIRPERSON

SPECIAL POWER POINT PRESENTATION:

SIENA AND THE PALIO

Since 1656, a quiet medieval town is transformed twice a year into one of the most dangerous horse tracks in the world. See what Siena is all about: an unusual cathedral, buildings from the Middle Ages, wonderful food, open-air cafes and markets, a prestigious university and "Il Palio", the most treacherous race in the world. Siena was Florence's great rival - come and find out why.





“PROVERB OF THE MONTH”

(FROM OUR CULTURE CHAIR, PATRICIA SUMMERS)

"Le ore del mattino hanno l'oro in bocca."

In other words . . .

(The morning hours are the most precious.)

In Italy, whether you are a fisherman or a shop keeper, working or on vacation, rich or poor, the early morning hours are savored and appreciated.

*So the next time you have the opportunity, take a life lesson from our Italian cousins: *fa un bel caffè* (make some good coffee), *va fuori* (go outside), *e non far niente* (and most of all, don't DO anything!) Breathe in some fresh air, enjoy the birds and sunshine, think about your next vacation, check the progress of your garden. And when you have finished all that - and *il bel caffè* - take note of how relaxed you feel.*

This is why fewer Italians need tranquilizers, have heart attacks or strokes. Take a little quiet time in a peaceful spot for yourself.



NEW YORK STATE O.S.I.A. CONVENTION @ VILLA ROMA
JUNE 2ND THROUGH 5TH 2011



FLAGS FROM EVERY REGION OF ITALY WERE DISPLAYED IN VILLA ROMA'S MAIN LOBBY



THERE WAS A BIRTHDAY CAKE TO COMMEMORATE THE NEW YORK GRAND LODGE'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY



STATE AND NATIONAL OFFICERS PRESIDED OVER CONVENTION HALL



YOUR LODGE DELEGATES WORKED HARD – MANY HOURS EVERY DAY



INCOMING STATE PRESIDENT THOM LUPO POSES WITH OUR LODGE DELEGATION AT FORMAL DINNER



DELEGATES USED REAL N.Y.S. VOTING MACHINES TO CAST THEIR BALLOTS ON SATURDAY



AS BALLOONS FALL IN CONVENTION HALL TO USHER IN OUR NEW STATE PRESIDENT THOMAS LUPO . . .



OUR DELEGATES JOIN 360 OTHERS, MAKING SOME NOISE TO WELCOME THE NEW STATE LEADERS



HIGHEST AWARD POSSIBLE IN O.S.I.A. IS BESTOWED ON OUR OWN BROTHER CARLO MATTEUCCI IN FORMAL CEREMONY



BROTHER CARLO MATTEUCCI PROUDLY DISPLAYS HIS BENE EMERITUS AWARD



OUR WORTHY PRESIDENT GIVES BROTHER CARLO A GIFT ON BEHALF OF OUR LODGE



DELEGATES FROM ACROSS THE STATE SAMPLE ENTRIES DURING HOMEMADE WINE CONTEST



OUR LODGE WAS THE WINE CONTEST COMMITTEE, POSING HERE WITH CHAIRMAN TOM AMATO (OF THE JOHN MICHAEL MARINO LODGE)

IN ADDITION TO MAKING UP VIRTUALLY THE ENTIRE *HOMEMADE WINE CONTEST COMMITTEE* (SISTERS MARGARET MAIER, JOAN TASOGLU, ANGELA DONATO, PATRICIA SUMMERS, BROTHERS CLIFF MILLER AND BOB DONATO), OUR LODGE ALSO PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE STATE'S 105TH CONVENTION BY CHAIRING THE STATE BUDGET COMMITTEE (BROTHER CARLO MATTEUCCI), CHAIRING THE STATE ELECTORAL COMMITTEE (BROTHER CLIFF MILLER), AND SERVING ON THE STATE BUDGET COMMITTEE (SISTER JOAN TASOGLU)

NOT TO MENTION . . .



TAKING TOP PRIZE IN THE STATE NEWSLETTER COMPETITION, WHEN OUR NEWSLETTER "IL GIORNALINO BASILONE" WAS JUDGED **"BEST NEWSLETTER IN NEW YORK STATE"**

OUR JUNE 6TH MONTHLY MEETING



MEMBERS GIVE THEIR ATTENTION TO OUR CHAPLAIN AS WE BEGIN



NEW SISTERS CATHY SARINA BROWN AND LINDA JOHNSON TAKE OATH



PRESIDENT PATRICIA PINS OUR NEWLY INITIATED MEMBERS



BUON COMPLEANNO !

*(HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR MEMBERS WHO BECOME
ONE YEAR "BETTER" THIS MONTH !)*

Christine Felice (July 6th)
Rosanne Fabricatore (July 7th)
Thomas D'Arcangelo (July 9th)
Pier-Anna Generale-Fox (July 12th)
Harold Bruce Van Sise (July 14th)
Brian Fabricatore (July 15th)
Geraldine Maccone (July 15th)
Maria Silvia Scalesse (July 17th)
Dottie Curto (July 19th)
Antoinette Trotter (July 23rd)
Gloria Cummings (July 29th)



BENVENUTI !

A Warm Welcome to Our Newest Sisters & Brother ...

Laura Calarco
Rob Calarco
Linda Johnson

CELL PHONES FOR SIGHT



LODGE MEMBERS POSE WITH OUR FIRST DONATION OF OLD CELL PHONES TO NEWLY ESTABLISHED 'OSIA GIFT OF SIGHT' PROGRAM WHICH WILL USE THE OLD PHONES TO GENERATE FUNDS TO ASSIST AMERICA'S VET DOGS AND OTHER PROGRAMS TO HELP THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED.



NEW FEATURE . . .

ITALIAN TRIVIA

Ready for a challenge? Here's some Italian trivia:

1. This popular liqueur, made from bitter almonds, was created in the early 16th century by a widow as a gift to artist Bernadino.
2. Upon unification in 1861, which Italian city was proclaimed the first capital of the kingdom of Italy?
3. Which Italian city gave birth to the harpsichord in the 15th century?
4. This dialect more closely resembles Latin than any other dialect or language in the world today and is the standard for official documents, newspapers, radio, television, etc. It is the official language taught in Italian schools.
5. What does the word "FINE" mean when seen in an Italian movie?

(Answers at the end of this newsletter.)

“LET’S EAT OUT TOGETHER” NIGHT

JUNE 15, 2011 ~ SICILIA D’ORO RESTAURANT, PATCHOGUE, NY



**A "SPECIAL QUOTABLE QUOTE" TO EVERYONE,
FROM OUR PRESIDENT**

"I continue to be inspired by those who give of their time and talent. They quietly give of themselves in the sure hope that someone else's life might be better. They seek no fanfare or applause. They may never win an award, but that doesn't concern them. They give without any expectation of reward. These are volunteers." (*)

As I read that, I immediately thought of all our lodge members who give so much of themselves all year long. Every single effort counts, whether it is hosting a C and C, marching in a parade, making the coffee, reading a prayer, cleaning up things for our yard sales, delivering a BBQ, baking a dessert, taking pictures, selling raffle tickets - the list goes on and on.

And so I want to make sure you all know how much I applaud and appreciate all your efforts. Alone we do good things, but together we are AWESOME! A big thank you and a hug to each and every one of you.

Fraternally,

Patricia

(*) Taken from Jim Ryan's "Insights for Achieving Simple Happiness", with permission and best wishes from the author himself.



THE COOKBOOKS HAVE ARRIVED!



If you have ordered an OSIA cookbook, Sister Madeline M. will have them at the July 11 meeting, ready for pick-up.

If you have not ordered one yet and would like to do so, she will be taking orders again at that time.

The cost of each hardcover book is just \$20, including tax, shipping and handling.

Wouldn't that make a wonderful keepsake gift for someone? By buying a copy, you are supporting OSIA as well as sharing our heritage and carefully guarded family recipes. Think about that new bride you know, your cousin who loves to cook, a donation copy for your public library...

For just \$20 we can show our Italian pride and pass on a little piece of Grandma's kitchen.

LAUREL LAKE VINEYARD FIELD TRIP * 6/24/11



KARAOKE ...



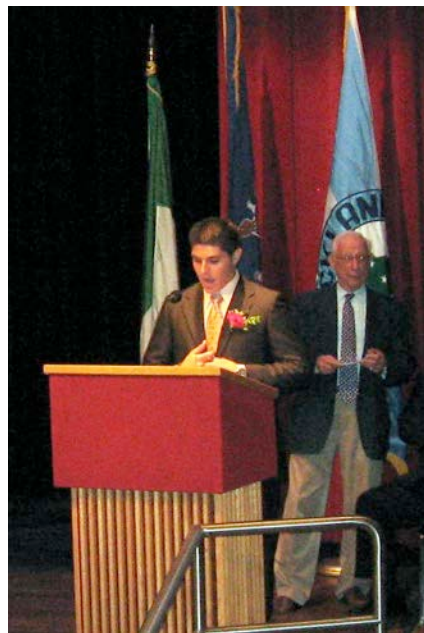
WINE TASTING ...



FRIENDSHIP & RELAXATION

NEW YORK STATE OSIA SCHOLARSHIP CEREMONY

ROCKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE * 6/26/11



OUR OWN LODGE BROTHER FRANK A. SIRIANNI ACCEPTS STATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD (L) BEFORE POSING WITH OUR PRESIDENT PATRICIA (SEE "MEMBERS' CORNER")

PLAN A TRIP TO ITALY THAT FITS YOUR INTERESTS

People are always asking me about Italy: when to go, how to find bargains, where to study Italian, what to expect. Well, here are some answers:

Go anytime. Italy is fascinating all year round. If you want to save some money and avoid crowds (but still have decent weather) try late April or early October. If you ski during February break, why not try the Dolomites instead? If you love the sun, try Sicily or Calabria for unspoiled beaches. If you love to hike, there are numerous walking tours in Tuscany and along the Amalfi coast. If you love to cook, try a class in Tuscany with Lorenza de' Medici (of the famous family) or in Bologna. For the history buff, Italy is paradise but get off the beaten trail by visiting Basilicata or Umbria.

Bargains are getting harder and harder to find but the best advice I can give is this: travel like the Europeans who understand that a 3- star hotel can be even more charming and better run than a big, expensive 5- star one. Many "pensioni" (family-run bed-and-breakfast type places) are in quieter areas, cost less, and are filled with savvy travelers who share information. Since meals can be expensive in Italy, look for the local trattoria where home-cooked meals are cheaper than restaurants for the same quality of food and service. Don't overlook the local markets where you can find fresh cheese, meat, bread, wine and other picnic staples. Your first stop should be the local tourist board for free maps, walking tours, lists of special events and more booklets than you could possibly need. These offices are run by locals, almost all have personnel fluent in English and they know their area better than anyone.

Studying Italian has become easier since my days in Florence when you only had two choices: university classes or total immersion in a language school. Today there are tours by bicycle, cooking classes, spa weeks, wine tours, short city stays, walking tours, cruises, photography tours and heritage trips that incorporate language learning, too. You can still find summer programs through American universities like Stony Brook or go directly to major centers like Perugia or Florence and sign up for the amount of classes you want any time of the year. The most authentic way to learn, however, is to travel to small towns and villages, away from the droves of tourists, and force yourself to interact with locals who are more than willing to help. "Agriturismo" agencies can even find room and board for you on a farm or in a vineyard.

Finally, what to expect? In Italy, expect everything and anything! Most of all, you'll find fabulous food, friendly people, music, sunshine, beautiful hand-crafted items, mountains, lakes, beaches, open air markets and concerts, churches, artwork, fashion, breath-taking scenery... the list goes on and on. Even the pickiest travelers I know LOVE Italy, where a train strike leads to an unforgettable adventure, a dinner becomes a feast for the senses and a chance conversation with a stranger turns into a lifelong friendship.

E viva l'Italia!



“MEMBERS’ CORNER”



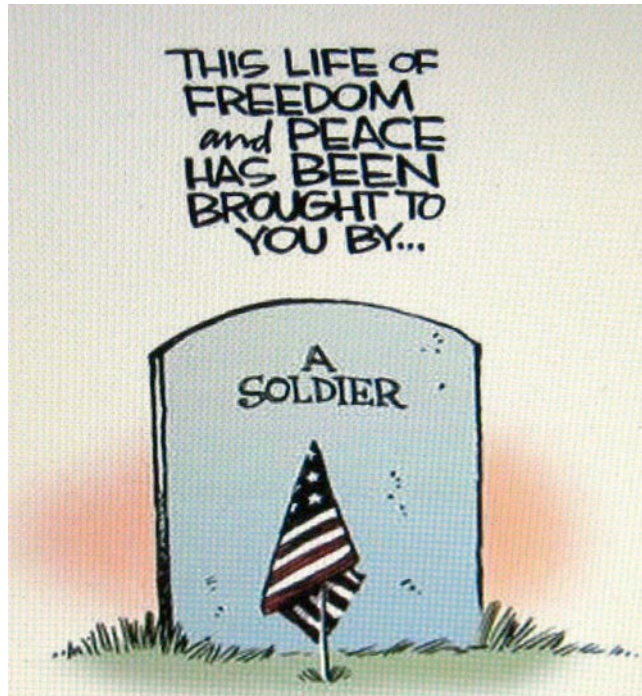
Lodge Brother Frank A. Sirianni (our youngest member) was recently awarded one of the 2011 OSIA state scholarships presented by the Grand Lodge of New York. Brother Frank received the combined “*Carlo & Anna Matteucci Memorial Scholarship / Carlo & Madeline Matteucci Family Scholarship / Sgt. John Basilone Lodge #2442 Scholarship*” during a ceremony at Rockland Community College in Suffern, NY.

After graduating from Sayville High School with a GPA of 90.279, he will be attending the University of New Haven this Fall. After majoring in Criminal Justice and Forensic Psychology, Brother Frank hopes eventually to become a human behavior analyst with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

In addition to his academic achievements, Brother Frank possesses an exemplary record of helping others in need locally, in New York City and around the world.

“ITALIAN TRIVIA” ANSWERS

(1) Amaretto di Saronno (2) Torino (3) Venezia (4) Tuscan Italian (5) the end!



This completes our July Newsletter. Hope you enjoyed it!

Fraternally Yours,

Cliff Miller

(Newsletter Editor)

God Bless & Protect Our Troops . . . Wherever They May Be!

