

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## Amici D'Italia Lodge #2791

### September 26, 2025

Membership: 111

Highlights Since Last Grand Lodge Meeting in May:

Our goal has been to have a Council Meeting each month, a General Meeting each month, a restaurant night each month and one or two additional events of interest to members for fundraising and fellowship.

June 2025: We had an indoor BBQ at our General meeting dinner and restaurant night (at Miller's Ale House) were both well attended. We distributed to all the Supreme Lodge article on why we exist and why we still matter. Details of all the work of the Grand Lodge and May Convention were shared; the Book Club met this month as well;

July 2025: No General Meeting but our restaurant night had a large turnout at a local Mexican restaurant with karaoke included.

August 2025: Our back-to-school and Ferragosto General meeting in August featured Music Bingo and a full Italian meal prepared by several long-term members and was enjoyed by everyone. Thank you notes from our scholarship winners were read.

The Music Bingo (thank you to the Grand Lodge for introducing us to this fun activity) was a big hit and will be repeated again. The Book Club met this month as well. Several members made it to restaurant night at Jason's Deli in spite of the nasty weather: a hearty crew.

September 2025: We began our Annual Charitable Giving evenings at our General Meeting. (Thank you to our Charity Committee Chair Donna Addeo). Donations were made and acceptances given by local groups: Big Brothers Big Sisters, 5 Star Veterans Center and We Can Be Heros Foundation. More charities will receive donations in upcoming meetings. We welcomed our new State Deputy Antonio Franzese and our loyal State Trustee Fran Bosi. We waived our usual 50/50 raffle

to support the Grand Lodge Raffle program instead. Our Scholarship Committee gave its report on commencing of activities for the coming year, continuing our expansion north into Nassau County and west into Baker and Putnam and Clay Counties.

We held our well-attended Second Annual Mass for Deceased Members at Christ the King Catholic Church on September 20<sup>th</sup>. The Mass was particularly meaningful due to the able assistance of our member, Deacon George Barletta, who gave the homily and remembered our deceased members in the Prayer of the Faithful. A special donation was made to the church for hosting the Mass. Of course we celebrated at a remembrance dinner afterwards. Our restaurant night will be on September 25 at a local Asian fusion restaurant.

Our Lodge is healthy financially and still growing; We plan to continue partnering with other groups in JAX and offering unique events of interest to the larger community. We are looking forward to our Bocce tournament in October, our Annual Italian Heritage Month celebration at our October general meeting and our Annual Christmas Brunch on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette L. Guarino  
President, Amici D'Italia Lodge #2791  
Jacksonville

September 24, 2025