



Amici d'Italia

Lodge 2791 Jacksonville, Florida

Volume 2 - Issue 17

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The Amici Newsletter August 2025

FROM THE PRESIDENT....

Welcome Back! We have surprises in store this month for our General Meeting on August 15, 2025: a Ferragosto celebration, an Italian feast prepared by our long serving members and “music bingo.” Our annual charitable evenings are coming up again together with Italian Heritage Month in October, with a City Council Proclamation and Recognition Ceremony. This year’s theme is the 550th Anniversary of the birth of Michelangelo Buonarroti. Join us, as always, for fellowship within our shared caring community. We have so much of which to be proud.

Also coming up: 1. Annual Mass on September 20 @ 4 PM for our Deceased Members at Christ the King Roman Catholic Church; of course we will have a meal together afterwards.

2. Bocce Tournament and Lunch on October 4, 2026.

SAVE THE DATE: Our annual Holiday Party (and one major fundraiser for scholarships and our charitable giving) is already booked **for December 7, 2025, from 1-5 PM at Hidden Hills Golf Club on Monument Road.**

Avanti,
Annette



ABOUT US



The Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America® (OSDIA) is the largest and oldest national organization for men and women of Italian heritage in the United States. Founded in 1905 as a mutual aid society for early Italian immigrants, today OSDIA has thousands of family members located in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, making it the leading service and advocacy organization for the nation’s estimated 26 million people of Italian descent. Our missions include encouraging the study of Italian language and culture in American schools and universities; preserving Italian American traditions, culture, history and heritage; and promoting closer cultural relations between the United States and Italy.



Wishing you a Speedy Recovery after your Surgery Marilyn Sussan, Jack Cosentino & Sal Santapola
Mass at Christ the King Saturday September 20th, at 4pm for all the deceased members of the Sons and Daughters of Italy.
“O Lord, you gave me light; you dispel my darkness.”
 Psalm 118:28

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Cheryl Callavini	Lucy Cortese	Jack Liuzzo	Sal Santapola	Gloria Wnorowski
Mario Cortese	Mark Gregorio	Rose Maher	Annie Sheen	Giancarlo Zepeda

Good Day to the City Council:

I am the current President of the long standing Orders of Sons and Daughters of Italy in American Jacksonville Amici d'Italia Lodge 2791.

The OSDIA dates to 1905 and began as a mutual aid society to bury new immigrants and provide assistance and scholarships to the children of immigrants in America during the Great Migration of 1880-1920 from the seven southern provinces of Italy. In the years since, hundred of thousands of Italian Americans have been members of the Lodges located throughout the USA.

Today the work continues with the Grand Lodge of Florida and some 18 local lodges throughout our state. We supply scholarships at the local, state and national level, promote the rich culture, music and art of our ancestors and make donations to worthy causes in each of our local areas. As always, the work is politically non partisan and does not promote any particular religion. Of note, some 20% of our social members are Hispanic.

This year, the focus of Italian Culture Month is Michelangelo Buonarotti, honoring the 550th Anniversary of the year of his birth. **Our Culture Month Lodge meeting will be held on Friday October 17, 2024 at 6:30 PM at the Shepherd of the Woods Lutheran Church Educational Center, 7860 Southside Blvd. JAX 32256.**

We would be honored to share the evening with you and we are making a request for proclamations honoring Italian Heritage Month. Our local lodge has seen astronomical growth in the last 5 years, augmented by the many transplants from New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois and Massachusetts. We are currently at 107 members with more to be sworn in at the next few meetings.

The announcement of the Italian Heritage and Culture Month Committee is attached. Please RVSP directly to me @ annette57@aol.com.

Respectfully,

Hon. Annette L. Guarino (Family Court, Westchester County, NY retired)
 President OSDIA Amici d'italia Lodge 2791



Information, Activities and Updates

Meetings Mailing Address Contact Information



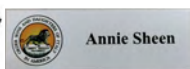
- Council meets 1st Tuesday of the month.
- Lodge meets the 3rd Friday of the month at 6:30pm at Shepherd of the Woods Lutheran Church 7860 Southside Blvd, Jax Fl. **August 15, 2025 at 6:30pm**
- Mail address: Amici D'Italia Lodge 2791 PO Box 8985 Jacksonville, Fl 32239-8985
- President: Annette Guarino email annette57@aol.com phone 914-548-7821
- Newsletter: Sal Santapola email saldesanta@gmail.com phone 904-887-8758
- Compassion: Georgianne Pionessa email ajp19@comcast.net phone 904-727-7112.
- Webmaster: www.italiainjax.org Giancarlo Zepeda email support@pendabrytemetal.com



The book club meets periodically at 6:30pm. Meeting at Toni O'Connor's home 12234 Spiney Ridge Drive South Jacksonville, Fl 32225. Next meeting Thursday August 28, at 6:30pm. Book Discussion: The Glass Maker, by Tracey Chevalier
Chair Leader Cheryl Callavini 904-744-1779
RSVP to attend as this is a gated community call or text Toni at 732-272-3910



Golf Shirt/Name Tag



Golf Shirt - Cost \$25 - Name Tags Cost is \$13
Contact Annie Sheen for Golf Shirt or Name Tags. Anniesheen@comcast.net
Italian Heritage Cook Book - \$20 - Purchase at the general meeting.

Scholarship



Scholarships - Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America
National Leadership Grants – General Information Through the Sons of Italy Foundation® (SIF), and tens 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 tens of millions of dollars in scholarships to date. The Foundation is excited to support more talented youth to achieve their dreams. Scholarship applications for next year: Go to web page - www.osdia.org/scholarships/

Committees



We continue to reach out for volunteers to assist on each committee which are the following: **Fraternity, Philanthropy, Membership, Culture, Finance & Communications.**
Committees established and are on going are: Fraternity, Finance, Philanthropy (Charities & Scholarship). Contact Sal Santapola @ saldesanta@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering.

Night out Social Jason's Deli Thursday August 21 6:00pm



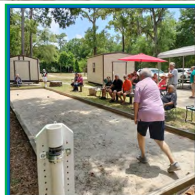
Join us for our Social night out for fellowship and fun at Jason's Deli
4375 Southside Blvd. Jacksonville FL 32216 phone 904 620-0707

Web Page www.jasonsdeli.com

Save the Date

Salvare
La
data

- August 5 Council Meeting 6:30pm
- August 15 General Meeting (Ferragosto) Feast of the Assumption 6:30pm
- August 21 Social Jason's Deli 6pm
- October 4 Bocce at IAC - 12pm
- October 18 IAC Italiana Festa
- December 7 Annual Holiday Brunch at Hidden Hills Golf Club



SAT. OCTOBER 4TH, 2025 12PM - BOCCIE AT ITALIAN AMERICAN CLUB

DONATION \$15 PER PERSON INCLUDES LUNCH

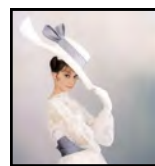
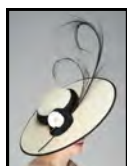
BOCCIE TOURNAMENT - FIRST AND 2ND PLACE PRIZES

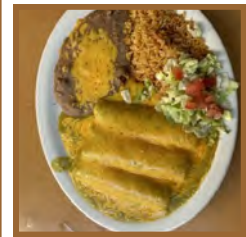


The Amici Newsletter Lodge 2791 August 2025



Forty-Four persons attended from OSDIA, Italian American Club, Family and Friends and enjoyed the performance of My Fair Lady at Alhambra Dinner Theatre on Saturday, June 21, 2025 at the Matinee performance.





Twenty-Two members & friends enjoyed Mexican food and fellowship at El Cabo's on Thursday, July 24th.



Save The Date!

Sunday, December 7th. 2025

1PM - 5PM

Hidden Hills Country Club

3901 Monument Road Jax, FL 32225

Christmas Party!

Celebrate the season with warmth, laughter, and delicious holiday fare!

Buffet Menu Includes:

- Salmon & Beef Tenderloin
- Freshly Baked Rolls
- Garden Salad
- Tea, Coffee & Dessert
- *Cash Bar Available*

Donation:

- \$50 – Members
- \$55 – Non-Members

Reserve your Spot - Make check payable to OSDIA Lodge #2791





THE ITALIAN AMERICAN CLUB Presents 75th Anniversary Celebration

30th Annual

~ Festa ~ ITALIANA



Save the Date!

That's Amore!

PLEASE JOIN US
FAMILIES & FRIENDS

Date: Saturday, October 18, 2025

Time: 11 AM to 7 PM

Location: IAC Clubhouse, 2838
Westberry Rd., Jax, FL 32223

Enjoy a Taste of Italy:

- Authentic Italian food & subs
- Cookies, cannoli, and desserts
- Refreshing Italian ice

Live Entertainment Throughout the Day!

Join us as we celebrate 75 years of Italian heritage & community. Bring your family, invite your friends.

Be Italian for a Day and enjoy La Vita Bella!

Contact: Lucy Cortese lucycortese@att.net

904-586-2700





Italian Heritage & Culture Committee
of New York, Inc.

Sponsors of Italian Heritage & Culture Month • Mese della Cultura Italiana

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Christopher Loiacono
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*Deceased

NEWS ARTICLE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Nancy Indelicato
naindel@hotmail.com
646-499-1834

June 17, 2025

The Italian Heritage and Culture Committee of New York, Inc.

Announces Its Annual Theme
Michelangelo, An Italian Genius 1475–1564

*on the occasion of
Michelangelo Buonarroti's 550th Birthday Year
and the 49th Anniversary of the IHCC-NY, Inc.*

The Italian Heritage and Culture Committee of New York, Inc. (IHCC-NY, Inc.) Board of Directors, led by its president, Comm. Joseph Sciame, is comprised of a volunteer group of leaders of the Italian and Italian American community. They ensure that its mission continues with their promoting, presenting, and preserving Italian and Italian American culture in the Tri-State area. Its annual theme is mirrored by other states in their event programming throughout America.

During 2025, the IHCC-NY, Inc. will host, coordinate, or publicize theme-related presentations, symposiums, exhibits, seminars, a student essay contest, proclamations by every level of government, and tributes to one of the greatest artists and visionaries ever, Michelangelo Buonarroti, so renowned he is known worldwide by his first name alone.

The Committee's publicly supported educational materials, including theme-related posters, bookmarks, and booklets, will continue to be distributed free to educational, cultural, and public institutions, ensuring the Committee's ongoing education of the general public about the merits of Italian and Italian American culture.

Five hundred and fifty years ago, March 6, 1475, marks the birth of Michelangelo Buonarroti: sculptor, painter, architect, poet, genius. A contemporary of renowned artists Leonardo da Vinci, Sandro Botticelli, Filippino Lippi, the Perugino, during the height of the Italian Renaissance, there was Michelangelo, a true Renaissance Man, a master in multiple artistic fields.

It is also fitting that Michelangelo, who was a devout Catholic and a member of the Secular Franciscan Order and who depicted great religious figures, would have his 550th birth anniversary during a Jubilee year, which signifies joy, special blessings, and calling for pilgrimage to renew one's faith. It is also significant that this celebration is in the year that Pope Francis died after a last farewell journey through St. Peter's Square, passing in front of the Basilica Michelangelo designed



Italian Heritage & Culture Committee
of New York, Inc.

Sponsors of Italian Heritage & Culture Month - Mese della Cultura Italiana

and where the first North American Pope, Leo XIV, was chosen in the Sistine Chapel, the sacred place where Popes are elected, surrounded by the Michelangelo ceiling frescoes depicting the *Creation of Man* and in front of his *Last Judgment* behind the altar wall. Michelangelo served under nine Popes.

Michelangelo Buonarroti was born in the small village of Caprese, in the Republic of Florence. It was in Florence that he began as an artist's apprentice at age thirteen. At age fifteen he was living at the Medici palace, where he studied sculpture with Bertolo di Giovanni, under the patronage of Lorenzo de' Medici, the powerful ruler of the Florentine republic and the great patron of the Renaissance arts.

From 1501 to 1504, Michelangelo's amazing artistic ability enabled his sculpting the biblical *David*, which to this day stands alone in the Rotunda of the Accademia in Florence. When one stands before *David*, one is in awe of the lifelike details, experiencing the majesty not only of his steadied gaze but also of his anatomy with visible veins and musculature. It is an emotional moment realizing this lifelike figure emerged from one block of marble. One feels the marble come alive, carved by a true genius. Leading up to the *David*, the corridor is lined by the four *Slave-Prisoner* statues, those emerging from the stone, as if trying to be free but still bound by the marble, purposefully unfinished to underscore the struggle. Michelangelo's *Pietà*, depicting Mary holding the crucified Christ, also evokes its sorrow. This ability to bring forth emotion from the viewer was also genius. To think Michelangelo was only twenty-four years old when he completed this moving depiction.

However, sculpture was not enough. Michelangelo would go on to excel in the painting of the Sistine Chapel, its ceiling frescoes depicting the *Creation of Man* and other scenes from the Book of Genesis in the Old Testament and the *Last Judgment*, portraying the final judgment of humanity. Millions journey to Rome to see the Vatican, to stand before his frescoes in the Sistine Chapel, which cover the walls and the ceiling—the ceiling Michelangelo lay under, bent backward, unbalanced, painting the biblical figures, for two years.

Following the death of the architect Antonio da Sangallo, Pope Paul III entrusted Michelangelo with the design of the new Saint Peter's Basilica, the seat of the Roman Catholic Church. He brought new grandeur especially to the inside of the dome and the outside façade of the Basilica, arising from Michelangelo's dynamic vision.

Little known is that Michelangelo wrote 330 poems, sonnets, madrigals, and poetic letters, including to the aristocratic religious poet Vittoria Colonna. He wrote of love, piety, mortality, personal and artistic struggles. He was, most of all, a humanist!

He died a few weeks before his 89th birthday, on February 18, 1564, in Rome, Papal States, after an accomplished life as a sculptor, painter, architect, and poet. The chisel, the paint brush, the pen, and the words were put to rest, but Michelangelo's completed visions, their beauty and the emotions they evoked, remain.



Asti, Italy



Trento, Italy

August/September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 Council Meeting 6:30pm	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 General Meeting 6:30pm	16
17	18	19	20	21 Jason's Deli Social 6:00pm	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1 September	2 Council Meeting 6:30pm	3	4	5	6

Italy in the Summer

Source - [When is Summer in Italy, and What Are The Best Things To Do - Ready Set Italy](#)

Italy in the summer is a vibrant time of year, offering a mix of warm weather, cultural festivities, and delicious cuisine. Here are some highlights to consider when planning your summer trip to Italy:

Best Time to Visit: June is often considered the best month to visit Italy in summer due to its warm weather and fewer tourists. July and August are also popular, but they come with higher prices and more crowds.

Popular Destinations: The Amalfi Coast, Cinque Terre, Rome, Tuscany, Venice, Sicily, and Lake Como are among the most visited summer destinations.

Activities: Enjoy hiking in the Dolomites, tasting Sicilian food, attending cultural events, and exploring the history of Rome.

Weather: Expect warm and sunny days, with temperatures varying by region. The Mediterranean islands like Sicily and Sardinia are ideal for beach lovers.

Costs: Be prepared for higher prices in summer due to increased tourist demand. Booking early can help save money. Remember to pack accordingly for the weather and to enjoy the vibrant atmosphere of Italy during the summer months.

