



Volume 3 - Issue 22

OFFICERS

President : *Annette Guarino*
 Vice President: *Dominic Addeo*
 Past President: *Mark Gregorio*
 Orator: *Mo. Cooper*
 Recording Secretary : *Donna Addeo*
 Financial Secretary: *Dominick Sorrentino*
 Treasurer: *Annie Sheen*
 Trustees: *Sal Santapola*
 De Santapola
 Joe Pecorella
 Jack Cosentino
 Grand Lodge Trustee: *Fran Bosi*
 Grand Lodge 2nd VP: *Mark Gregorio*
 Chaplain: *Carmen Roman*
 Founder: *Alba Rapisarda Renninger*

January 2026
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The Amici Newsletter
January 2026

FROM THE PRESIDENT....

Buon Anno!

At our January general meeting on January 16, our Nominating Committee will give its report, and nominations will be made for the upcoming Board. You must be present to accept a nomination or accept in advance in writing, or you can be nominated from the floor. In February, more nominations are allowed from the floor, and the Election is held after appointment of Electors. Installation is at our Annual St. Joseph's Dinner in March 2026.

At our January meeting, we will also have a presentation about a potential trip to Toscana with a small group and a well-respected tour group. Please join us for another enjoyable evening!

On Saturday, February 7, at 5:15 pm, we will attend a Catholic Mass in honor of Bob Sussan, our deceased Orator, at the church of San Juan del Rio, 1718 FL-13, Fruit Cove 32259. Please attend if your schedule permits.

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.

*Join us for The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for
Bob Sussan at San Juan del Rio Catholic
Church 1718 State Road 13 Switzerland, fl.
The Date is Saturday February 7th, at the
5:15pm*

"O Lord, you give me light; you
dispel my darkness."
Psalm 138:12



January Birthdays

Donna Auger

Annette Guarino

Charthian Miller

Marilyn Sussan

Deacon George Barletta

Maya Gumercindo

Chuck Perrone

Joseph DeVito

William Mattiace

Mona Ryner

OSDIA General Meeting Friday, January 16th at 6:30 PM

Italy Land Tour – April 3, 2027 (11 Days)

Patrick from Collette will present details about the upcoming Italy Land Tour. Additional information is available on Page 6 of the newsletter.

Officer Elections for Our Lodge

Our Lodge will be holding Officer Elections, and we encourage members to consider running for a position.

A slate of officers has been prepared and will be reviewed at the January meeting, but all positions remain open, and members may add their names during the nomination period.

- Nominations will take place at the January meeting
- Elections will be held at the February meeting, with additional nominations accepted from the floor

If you want to help shape the future direction of the Lodge, this is your opportunity to get involved.

Nomination Committee Contacts: **Mark Gregorio** – mgregorio05@comcast.net—**Mo Cooper** – moecpi@yahoo.com

Annie Sheen – anniesheen@comcast.net

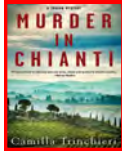


Information, Activities and Updates

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, Jacksonville Florida 32256. **Next Meeting January 16, 2026***
- 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*



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 January 15, 2026 at 6:30pm. Book Discussion: *Murder in Chianti* by Camilla Trinchieri
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. Scholarships will be created in memory of Bob Sussan; Frank Purpura, World War II D-Day Veteran and Purple Heart recipient. Scholarship application - for this year: 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.

Restaurant Social Thursday January 22 Bono's Pit BBQ



Join us for a fellowship and some good Barbecue at Bono's Pit BBQ 4907 Beach Blvd. Jacksonville, FL 32207
904-398-4248
Bono's Pit Bar-B-Q | Real Pit Barbecue Since 1949



Join us for The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for in remembrance of Bob Sussan at San Juan del Rio Catholic Church 1718 State Road 13 Switzerland, fl.
Saturday February 7th, at 5:15pm .



SPOTLIGHT ON MEMBERS: Each month OSDIA is featuring one of our members to share and highlight their professional lives and accomplishments. If you would like to be featured contact our webmaster, Giancarlo Zepeda @ support@pendabrytemetal.com

Member Spotlight



Jennifer Follo-Burroughs - HCA Health Care at Home - Administrative Coordinator

Jennifer. Follo-Burroughs
@HCAHealthcare.com

904-355-2991

7411 Fullerton St. Ste 106
Jacksonville, FL 32256



Although I was born in Brooklyn, NY, I spent most of my life on Staten Island. Yes, we say “on” Staten Island. There I enjoyed all that New York City public schools had to offer, attended the College of Staten Island, met and married my husband, and had two children. I was shaped in a neighborhood that was predominantly of Italian descent and extremely proud to be American. Approximately 15 years ago, we made Saint Johns and Jacksonville our new home. We are equally proud to say we are from Jacksonville as we are to say we are from Staten Island. While living in Saint Johns and raising my children, I went back to school for Medical Office Management since Jacksonville has a robust healthcare sector. Since graduating I have worked in the Home Health industry for HCA Healthcare at Home.

HOLIDAY SEASON EVENTS:

Our OSDIA Christmas Brunch on December 7, had more than 50 members and guest and raised fund for our scholarships. Thanks to all who attended and donated.



The Alliance Filipino American Organization hosted members at two tables with a Black Tie “Ball” at the Hilton Double Tree on New Year’s Eve. We continue to build relationships throughout our local community.





December 30, 2025

Dear OSDIA Members,

As our fiscal year-end approaches, this is a reminder that your annual membership will be due no later than January 31, 2026, this is our General Letter to all members, and you will not receive a separate invoice. Read the General Membership Invoice below.

We thank you for your continued support, as membership is the key to our success. We look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

Dominick

Dominick Sorrentino

Financial Secretary/Membership

<u>General Membership Invoice to All Members</u>
Lodge Membership \$50 per member January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026
Mail Out Date December 30, 2025
Annual Dues: \$50.00 for one member; \$100 two members
Payment can be made at General Meeting Friday January 16, 2026, or mail your check
Make check payable to OSDIA and mail to:
Amici D'Italia Lodge P.O. Box 8985, Jacksonville, Florida 32239-8985
<i>Please remit payment no later than January 31, 2026</i>
Contact: Dominick Sorrentino 904-866-8527 email dmn1sorr@comcast.net



Tuscan & Umbrian Countryside featuring Italy's Charming Hill Towns

11 DAYS - APRIL 3, 2027 TO APRIL 13, 2027
15 Meals - Max Group Size 24



On a journey through the less-traveled country roads of Umbria and Tuscany, discover another side to the Italy you love. Stroll Assisi's old city, and explore the Umbrian hill town of Spoleto, where the gilded façade of the cathedral rivals with the silvery sheen of the olive trees. Visit Florence, the "Cradle of the Renaissance." In Siena, stand inside one of Tuscany's most ancient piazzas. Admire the famous towers of San Gimignano and hunt for truffles in the Umbrian

countryside. Delight in regional specialties and Italian wine with every dinner. Feel like a local as you discover the marvels of wine, cuisine, culture, and history.



Highlights

- *Enjoy 3 nights in a restored Tuscan villa*
- *Olive Oil Mil *Home Hosted Lunch *Pecorino Cheese Farm*
- *Pasta Factory * Hunt for truffles * Home cooked meal*
- *Brunello Wine Tasting at a winery in Montalcino*
- *Assisi - Visit the Basilica of St Francis*

- **LAND ONLY COST** - \$3,999 Per Person—With Economy Air \$4,999 Per Person
Based on Double Occupancy
- **DEPOSIT** - \$698 Per Person - Non-refundable Once Paid
- **TRIP INSURANCE**—\$549 Per Person -
Must be purchased at time of deposit
cancel for any reason full refund less cost of Insurance
- **Final Payment Due February 2, 2027**

To book contact **Suzanne Fisher at 904-260-3401 ext. #251**. She need names as they are read on your passports and dates of birth.. Any questions Suzanne will be happy to help.



11571 San Jose Blvd., Unit 2 Jacksonville, FL 32223

Contact Suzanne @ 904-260-3401 ext. #251 Hours: M-F 9am – 5pm
suzanne@cruisecenterjax.com





The beloved baseball musical ***Damn Yankees*** is Boyd's favorite baseball team isn't winning. He makes a deal with a mysterious man to become young again and help the Yankees win the pennant.

Saturday Matinee March 14th 2026 at Alhambra Dinner Theatre

Dinner: 12:00 PM – 1:40 PM Performance: 1:50 PM

We've reserved **48 seats** for this special matinee & sold 32 with **16 Left to sell**

LAST DATE TO PURCHASE TICKETS IS JANUARY 19, 2026

Join us for an afternoon of Broadway entertainment, delicious dining, and warm fellowship at the beloved Alhambra Dinner Theatre. It's always a crowd favorite — a perfect way to spend time together and enjoy the arts.

Cost: \$75.00 per person (includes dinner, show, and gratuity)

Please click the link to purchase:

1 Ticket \$75 plus \$2 transaction fee = \$77 <https://tinyurl.com/36ct7wz7>

2 Tickets \$150 plus \$4 transaction fee = \$154 <https://tinyurl.com/45bjbjx>

You may also pay by check or credit card at the club.

Make checks payable to: Italian American Club

Contact Sal Santapola if you want to book seats at saldesanta@gmail.com



January/February
2026

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

Save the Date

1/6//26– Council Meeting 6:30pm
 1/16/26- General Meeting 6:30pm
 1/22/ 26—Bono's Restaurant Social 6pm

