



Amici d'Italia

Lodge 2791 Jacksonville, Florida

Volume 3 - Issue 27

The Amici Newsletter June 2026

OFFICERS

President : Dom Addeo
Vice President: Mark Gregorio
Communications: Sal Santapola
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Mistress of Ceremonies: Margie Rimmer
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June 2026

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FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Cari amici ~

Our well attended General Meeting on May 15th capped off **Armed Forces Week**, celebrated in the week leading up to **Armed Forces Day** (third Saturday in May), which honors all men and women currently serving in the U.S. military. May 15th was also **Peace Officers Memorial Day**, which pays tribute to the local, state, and federal peace officers (LEOs) who have died, or who have been disabled, in the line of duty.

Lastly, and most significantly, we commemorated **Memorial Day**, observed on the last Monday in May, the federal holiday in the United States honoring U.S. military personnel who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces,

Our guest speaker, **Lieutenant Governor Jay Collins**, spoke eloquently of his service, his sacrifice, and his vision for Florida and the USA. The presence of many veterans – members and guests – enriched the evening. Thank you to all who worked to make the event enjoyable and memorable.

Regarding service, please note we are still in need of members for the following committees: **Cultural, Fund Raising, Hospitality and Membership**. Please give serious thought to volunteering to assist in these committees; the effort and time commitment are not burdensome, yet a little help will go a long way in enhancing the lodge and its impact on the community. Feel free to reach out to me directly or to any of our council members.

Grazie e ciao,

Dom



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.



Please keep Mary Wright in your thought and prayers as she continues her recovery in rehab.

*Mass scheduled for Decease Members is
Saturday September 12, 2026 4pm at Christ the
King Catholic Church 742 Arlington Road
North Jacksonville, Fl 32211*

June Birthdays

Janet Boni
Maurice Cooper
Carole DeVito
Butch Ferrizzi

Mathilde Genovese
Marianne Giannott
Frank Marano
Annie Marie Tucker

Edward Wetzel
Natalie Winiewicz
Salvatore Yacuzzo
Al Zammataro





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. **Friday June 19, at 6:30pm**
- Mail address: Amici D'Italia Lodge 2791 PO Box 8985 Jacksonville, FL 32239-8985
- President: Dom Addeo email domaddeo@gmail.com phone 732-331-7196
- 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 June 18, at 6:30pm.**
Book Discussion: Amalfi Curse by Sarah Penner
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 - \$15 - 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. For more information about next year's scholarship program visit 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.

Members enjoying Daruma Japanese Steak House Thursday, May 21



Pictures on the right: Members enjoying their time eating at Daruma's. We had a great turnout and warm fellowship, making the evening special.



Restaurant Social Stonewood Grill & Tavern Thursday, June 25, 6pm



Join us for food and fellowship at Stonewood Grill & Tavern 3832 Baymeadows Road. on Thursday, June 25 at 6pm.
Phone (904) 739—7206 Website: stonewoodgrill.com



- 6/2 Council Meeting 6:30pm
- 6/13 St. Augustine Cruise 1pm - Followed by lunch at O.C. Whites.
- 6/18 Book Club Meeting 6:30pm
- 6/19 General Meeting 6:30pm
- 6/25 Restaurant Social Stonewood Grill & Tavern 6pm



May 15, 2026 — Friday General Meeting Honoring Our Fallen Heroes for Memorial Day With Guest Speaker Florida State Lieutenant Governor Jay Collins



L-R: Florida State Lieutenant Governor **Jay Collins** addresses the members during the presentation. **President Dom Addeo** stands with **Lieutenant Governor Collins** after the proceedings.



L-R: Members gather for the general meeting in honor of Memorial Day as **President Dom Addeo** addresses the members. Guest Speaker **Lieutenant Governor Jay Collins** arrived following the presentation to join the commemoration.



June Festivals in Italy — 2026

Source: Copilot

June 2026 in Italy will be an extraordinary month for those seeking unique and authentic experiences. Italian cities, with their historical, cultural and natural heritage, will host a series of events ranging from music to art, from **local traditions** to religious celebrations.

The streets and squares of the main Italian cities will become theaters of cultural meetings, **concerts, exhibitions** and performances that will attract visitors from all over the world. In June, the natural beauty of the country will merge with the energy of the events, creating a festive atmosphere that will envelop every participant.



Milano Film Fest — June 4–9 (Lombardy)

Milan's independent film festival featuring international cinema, emerging directors, and creative screenings across theaters and outdoor venues throughout the city.



Infiorata di Spello — June 6–7 (Umbria)

Spello's medieval streets are transformed into intricate floral carpets for Corpus Domini, created overnight using thousands of flower petals.

Infiorata di Genzano di Roma — June 13–15 (Lazio)

One of Italy's oldest and most famous flower festivals. Via Italo Belardi becomes a long tapestry of elaborate petal designs for the Corpus Domini procession.



Salina Jazz Festival — June 11–14 (Aeolian Islands - Sicily)

An intimate jazz festival on the island of Salina, with performances in courtyards, terraces, and small piazzas overlooking the Aeolian landscape.

June Taranta Festival (Salento) — June 11–14 (Puglia)

A celebration of Salento's pizzica dance and tarantismo traditions, with concerts and cultural events rotating through towns like Galatina and Nardò.



Spoleto Festival dei Due Mondi — Late June into July (Umbria)

A prestigious performing-arts festival featuring opera, dance, theater, and classical music in Spoleto's historic venues.

Ravello Festival — Begins late June (Campania)

A world-renowned classical music festival on the Amalfi Coast, with concerts in the gardens of Villa Rufolo overlooking the sea.

Venice Biennale (Art Biennale 2026) — Ongoing through June (Veneto)

The world's leading contemporary art exhibition, with national pavilions and installations throughout Venice.

Other June Festivals Italy also hosts several other June events worth noting, including the **Taormina Film Fest (June 29–July 5)**, the national holiday **Festa della Repubblica (June 2) in Rome**, Florence's historic **Calcio Storico matches (June 15 & June 24)**, and the opening of the **Arena di Verona Opera Festival (late June)**. These celebrations add even more color to Italy's early-summer season.



Tuscan & Umbrian Countryside

with Optional 2-Night Rome Pre Tour Extension

with Optional 2-Night Famous Food and Ferrari: Emilia Region Post Tour Extension

April 3 – 13, 2027



Book with
Airfare Now
& Save
\$350
Per Person

Upgrade to Elite Airfare! See inside for details.



For more information contact
Suzanne Fisher
Cruise Center World Travel
(904) 260-3401 Ext 251
suzanne@cruisecenterjax.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION CLICK ON THE LINK

<https://tinyurl.com/bdh9s4b5>



June/July
2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Council Meeting 6:30pm	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 St. Augustine Cruise 1pm—Lunch O.C. White's
14	15	16	17	18 Book Club Meeting 6:30pm	19 General Meeting 6:30pm	20
21 Father's Day	22	23	24	25 Stonewood Grill 6pm	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4 Independence Day
5	6	7 Council Meeting 6:30pm	8	9	10	11

SPOTLIGHT ON MEMBERS

Each month OSDIA will feature **two members**: one sharing their professional life and accomplishments and one sharing their personal or family story and interests. Help us get to know each other—volunteer or nominate a member for the July issue.

Name

- **Spotlight type:** Professional / Personal
- **Work profession:** title & employer
- **Family background:** one line (origins, heritage, or notable story)
- **Short bio:** 50–75 words (career highlights or personal story)

- **Photo:** optional
- **Contact email**
- **Preferred month:** optional

Deadline for July - June 26 — please send submissions early to allow editing and layout. **Send submissions to:** Giancarlo Zepeda —support@pendabrytemetal.com

