



Amici d'Italia

Lodge 2791 Jacksonville, Florida

Volume 2 - Issue 19

OFFICERS

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

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The Amici Newsletter

October 2025

FROM THE PRESIDENT....

Italian American Heritage Month is here for our General Meeting on October 17th, with a City Council Proclamation and Recognition Ceremony presented by our member, Councilman Chris Miller (Colonel, US Army, retired) . This year's theme is the 550th Anniversary of the birth of Michelangelo Buonarroti.

Our Charity evenings continue with the Jacksonville Humane Society accepting our donation this month. The list of items they would appreciate "in kind" can be found on page 5.

For various reasons, we have officer openings that must be filled immediately under our guiding bylaws: Treasurer, Orator and Recording Secretary. Please contact me directly with your interest in one of the positions (914) 548-7821. The nominations and votes will be held on October 17, 2025.

Just in time for Halloween, our founder, Alba Renninger, will entertain us with the Italian tradition of the *Night of the Dead*, or how Italy celebrates October 31- November 2 each year.

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. We will accept checks or credit cards for members @ \$50; non members \$55 each at our next general meeting.

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.



With Sympathy
We lift up in prayers for Annie Sheen and her family for the loss of her sister Maria J. Hughes and for Marilyn Sussan for the sudden loss of her husband Bob Sussan. Please keep their families in your prayers, may their souls Rest in Peace.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Julie Franciskato
Susan Johnson

Lisa Leviin
Chrissie Marano

Bob Sussan †
In Loving Memory

On Saturday, September 20th, members of the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America (OSDIA) gathered at Christ the King Church for a solemn Mass in remembrance of those who have passed. Following the service, members came together for dinner, sharing and honoring the legacy of our beloved departed.





The Amici Newsletter Lodge 2791 October 2025

Information, Activities and Updates

Meetings Mailing Address Contact Information



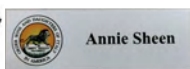
- Council meets 1st Tuesday of the month.
- Lodge meets the 3rd Friday of the month at 6:30pm at Shepherd of the Woods Lutheran Church 7860 Southside Blvd, Jax FL. **October 17, 2025 at 6:30pm**
- Mail address: Amici D'Italia Lodge 2791 PO Box 8985 Jacksonville, FL 32239-8985
- President: Annette Guarino 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 October 16th at 6:30pm. Book Discussion: An Italian Wife by Ann Hood. 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 Thur. October 23, 6pm Mega's Pizza



Join us for our Social night out Thursday October 23, Mega's Pizza 5800 Beach Blvd. Jacksonville, FL 32207 phone 904-602-8557
Web page— www.megaspizza.com

Social Zen Dumpling Thursday September 25





The Amici Newsletter Lodge 2791 October 2025

Charity Night General Meeting on Friday September 19th.

Our guests from: Big Brothers, Big Sisters, We Can Be Heros and 5 Star Vets.



President Annette Guarino presenting checks at our Charity Night Meeting from l/r

5 Star Amanda Mills, Counselor, We Can Be Heros, Beth Health, Founder & Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Sara Alton, CEO



General Meeting Friday October 17th, at 6:30pm.

Italian Heritage and Culture Night

Members of the City Council will be presenting City Council Proclamation to OSDIA Honoring Michaelangelo's 550 Anniversary of his birth.

Our special guest is Cortney from the **Jacksonville Humane Society. JHS** cares for 9k dogs and cats per year. They have community programs that include pet adoptions, support for pet owners, resources for lost and found pets, low-cost vet care, and public training classes. *They are in need of donations*

We will be collecting dog and cat food, treats, blankets and towels. for the Jacksonville Humane Society.

Presentation by founder Alba Renninger on how Halloween is celebrated in Italy "The Night of the Dead".

SPECIAL ELECTION - To fill the seats of Treasurer, Orator and Recording Secretary.

Bocce Tournament October 4th, at The Italian American Club



Many thanks to the members & friends that attended the Bocce Tournament at the Italian American Club. Thank you Dom Sorrentino for organizing a smooth and enjoyable event. Pictured (L to R): President Annette presenting awards to winners Jack Cosentino and Mike Caira.



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.

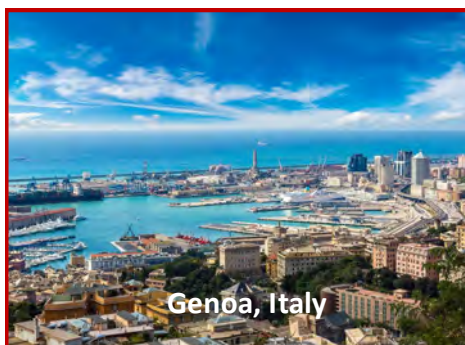
Be Italian for a Day and enjoy La Vita Bella!

Contact: Lucy Cortese lgcortese@att.net

904-586-2700



CIAO Buon Giorno
Bella Capisco
Acqua BENE
ASPETTO TUTTO
MOLTO GRAZIE
SCUSI PAZZO
AMICO MEZZO-MEZZO
Buonasera Mangia



October/November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Council Meeting 6:30pm	1	2	3	4 Bocce at IAC 12pm
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 General Meeting 6:30pm	18 IAC Festa Italiana 11am—7pm
19	20	21	22	23 Social Restaurant Mega's Pizza 6pm	24	25 Bob Sussan Celebration of Life, St Marks 11am
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 November
2	3	4 Council Meeting 6:30pm	5	6	7	8

Save the Date Salvare La data	October 17 General Meeting Italian & Culture Night 6:30pm - October 18 Festa Italiana at IAC
	October 23 Social Restaurant Mega's Pizza 6pm
	October 25 Celebrate the Life of Bob Sussan, St Mark's Lutheran Church Saturday October 25, 11am
	November 21 Thanksgiving General Meeting Pot Luck 6:30pm
	December 7 Annual Holiday Brunch at Hidden Hills Golf Club 1pm



It is with profound sadness that we share the sudden passing of our dear friend and devoted member, **Bob Sussan, Officer and Orator of the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America**. Bob passed away unexpectedly on Thursday September 25th, leaving behind a legacy of service, warmth, and dedication to our community.

Bob's voice and leadership were a guiding light for many of us. His commitment to our mission and his generous spirit touched countless lives. He will be deeply missed, but his memory will continue to inspire us.

We gather to honor and celebrate the life of Bob Sussan on Saturday, October 25, 2025, at 11:00 AM at St. Mark's Lutheran Church 3967 Hendricks Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32207. A reception will follow immediately after the service at the church.

Please keep Bob, his lovely wife Marilyn, and all his loved ones in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. May he rest in peace.