



West Shore Order Sons of Italy Lodge #2651

January 2015 Newsletter

Officers

President - Sam Sica
Immediate Past President - Charles Pisano
Vice-President: Joan Rottmann
Recording Secretary: Lucia Gleichman
Financial Secretary: Tony Bianchi
Treasurer: Mary McFiren
Trustees: Teresa Bilger, Bob Graci,
Lillian Branca, George Lapore
Guard: Harvey Bilger

Meetings are held every 4th Wed. of the month at
VFW Post 6704, 4907 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg.

Note from your President

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the lodge,

Welcome to 2015! We are looking at 2 to 3 months of busy and important activities for the lodge.

First and foremost will be the nominations and selections of new officers. Also, the elections of a new grand lodge will take place in April.

Secondly, our Winterfest is scheduled for Sunday, January 25 at Fenicci's Restaurant in Hershey. The 2014 member of the year will be announced along with a special award to one of our members. I hope many of you are planning to attend.

Third, following Winterfest is Carnevale, February 14. Wear your best costume and join the fun!

As we begin the new year, let us all be mindful that we are all members of the OSIA family and as such, should be always ready to assist any of our brothers and sisters in their time of need.

Thank you for your support.
Sam Sica, President

Fall/Winter Highlights

Basket Bingo Benefit

Our Basket/Bag Benefit Bingo held on November 16 was a huge success. We were able to realize a

profit of \$2300 which will benefit Mechanicsburg Area Meals on Wheels, Domestic Violence Services of Perry & Cumberland Counties, military veterans and our own scholarship fund.

A big shout out to the Bingo committee: Deb Kendrick, Charlie and Betty Pisano, Mary Ann Cimino, George and Janet Lapore, and Joan Rottmann for planning and organizing the event.

A special thank you to our members who came and volunteered the day of: Chris Rottmann, Nick Cimino, Angelo Pizulli, Carl Spataro, Tony Bianchi, Tammie and Randy Ebersole.

We were also blessed to have help from another non-profit organization and several family members. Hearts-n-Hands Sertoma members: Bea Gabany, Karen Welker, and Vivian Slagle. Amy Duke and Lori Edmondson (Debbie Kendrick's family members) supported selling the silent auction tickets.

Another wonderful team of supporters were our teenagers who volunteered to help call the winning bingo numbers and pass out the door prizes and bingo prizes: Cristina Marcellus (Joan & Chris' granddaughter), and Hunter and Carter Edmondson (Debbie's grandsons).

And finally thank you to everyone who came, contributed money, gift items, or pitched in when we needed extra hands. Without the support of all our dedicated members, this could not have been such a great success.

Meeting Update

October 22 - Our long awaited guest speaker, Dan Knaub, came and gave a fascinating talk about whales and presented video clips of highlights of whale watching excursions. We learned about the naming of whales, their characteristics and even their personalities.

November - December - No meetings were held due to the holidays.

January 28 - Our speaker for the evening will be Joe Gargiulo, retired music teacher and

administrator in the West Shore School District. He is a cantor at St. Theresa Church, performs with the Lebanon Valley College Alumni Coral Society and has performed with the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra. He will talk about comic Italian opera.

We also plan to present checks to our designated charities from our Bingo benefit.

February 25 - Luca Trazzi, Italian professor from Dickinson College Language Department will be speaking about Italy.

The slate for nomination of officers will be presented.

March 25 - We will be voting for new officers.

Our speaker for the meeting will be announced at a later date.

April 22 - Installation of new officers

Upcoming events

January 25- Winterfest will be held at Fenicci's Restaurant in Hershey. Contact Joan 737-6565 if you plan to attend or need more information.

February Charlie Pisano's display on Cristoforo Colombo and other Italian explorers will be showcased at the Cleve J. Fredricksen Library in Camp Hill throughout the month. This is a must see if you missed the display last October. He received a commendation from the Simpson Library for his professional and informative showcase.

February 14- Carnevale will be held at the Colonial Golf and Tennis Club in Harrisburg. Be sure to get your RSVP back to Mario Billow by February 1 if you plan to attend.

March - Applications for our lodge scholarship will be available in March. If you know of any senior who is interested in applying, contact Tony Bianchi at 766-7390.

Italian Classes

Italian classes are held at the Camp Hill Giant Food Store every Monday 6:30 pm. Interested? Contact Joan 737-6565.

Fundraising

Hershey Park

Please consider volunteering for a 5 hour shift at Hershey Park and Stadium sometime this year. Our lodge receives \$6 for every hour we work and our volunteers receive a free voucher which can be redeemed for Park tickets good for one year. Any friend, neighbor, relative 18 or over can work these shifts. They do not have to be a member. If you would like more information call Joan 737-6565.

Giant Cards

Please consider purchasing Giant Cards for your food or gas purchases. These cards are available in increments of \$25 and \$50. They are available at our regular meetings. Contact Tammie Ebersole at 728-3823 tammie_email@yahoo.com for more info.

Members Update

We want to extend a warm *benvenuto* to our newest members - Ralph Brown, Peter Panza, Dominic and Judith DeRicco, Mary (Tootsie) Panza Wright and Darrell Dethlefs. We look forward to seeing you at our events and meetings!

Reminder: Membership renewals were due December 15. If you haven't renewed your membership for 2015, please send your check to Tony Bianchi today.

Visit our lodge website : www.westshoreosia.com

Visit our OSIA National Website www.osia.org

Check us out on Facebook:
West Shore Lodge 2651

“Working Together to Preserve Our Heritage, Our Traditions, and Our Culture”