



ORDER
Sons and
Daughters
of Italy
IN AMERICA

La Bandiera

***The Banner
Newsletter of
The Italian Heritage Lodge #2517
Fairfax, Virginia
Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America***

AGOSTO 2026
MESSAGGIO DEL PRESIDENTE

Ciao Amici,

It's August now and the end of Summer is fast approaching. But no worries, we still have more fun things planned at the Lodge! For starters, we will be having a Mission BBQ summer lunch followed by the movie "Solo Mio" at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Sunday, August 30th. As for future events, our annual Meet & Greet Pasta Dinner will be in September. In October, we will have an IHL presence at the City of Fairfax Fall Festival. Also in October, we will be having a special fundraising dinner for Chef Nick and The Colonel's Kitchen featuring a four-course dinner and wine pairing. In November, Italian Heritage Lodge will be celebrating its 45th anniversary and there will be a special dinner for the occasion. And finally, to round out the year end, our annual Festa di Natale will take place on December 12th.

We have lots to look forward to in August and in the Fall so we hope you will join us!

As a special note, please wish Dawn Falsinotti, our Immediate Past President, best wishes as she finally gets her long-awaited surgery on August 3rd.

Summer always goes by too fast, so get outside and enjoy the warm weather and sunshine while it lasts!

***Best,
Michael Gering
IHL President***



IL CALENDARIO

12 agosto	Executive Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Kilroy's 5250a Port Royal Road Springfield
30 agosto	Lunch & Movie Matinee* "Solo Mio" & Mission BBQ Lunch	Noon – 3:00 p.m.	K of C Hall
20 settembre	GLVA Quarterly Meeting	11:00 a.m.	Giuseppe Verdi Lodge
27 settembre	Meet & Greet Pasta Dinner*	5:00 – 8:00 p.m.	K of C Hall
10 ottobre	City of Fairfax Fall Festival	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	City of Fairfax
10 ottobre	The Colonel's Kitchen Fundraiser*	5:30 – 9:00 p.m.	K of C Hall
TBD novembre	IHL's 45th Anniversary Celebration*	TBD	K of C Hall
12 dicembre	Festa di Natale*	TBD	K of C Hall

*** RSVP to Dawn Falsinotti (dfalsinotti@gmail.com)**

Please read our lodge newsletter, *La Bandiera*, for information on upcoming events through the end of this year. Many fun things are planned, and we are still putting together details like dates, guest speakers, menus, etc. To pique your interest...

On August 30 from noon to 3:00 p.m. we are planning a viewing of "Solo Mio" with a Summer Mission BBQ lunch at the K of C Hall (behind St. Leo Church).

Our annual September "Meet & Greet Pasta Dinner" is scheduled for Sunday, September 27th at the K of C Hall.

In October – Italian Heritage Month – IHL will participate in the City of Fairfax Fall Festival. That's Saturday, October 10th from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Also on October 10th, IHL will host a fundraiser for "The Colonial's Kitchen" with a four-course dinner paired with wines that will complement each course. Chef Nick and his Culinary Team will cook a wonderful dinner for us for a very special evening!

In November, IHL celebrates 45 years since its Charter in 1981!

And, of course, December 12th is our annual *Festa di Natale*.

So....keep your eyes open for more details about these events.

***Join us in August for a Mission BBQ Summer lunch
and afternoon matinee of “Solo Mio”!***

***If you did not have the opportunity to see “Solo Mio”
in theatres this past winter, it is available for us to
stream now. It is a fun Rom-Com set in Italy with
beautiful scenery, language and music, starring
Kevin James.***

***Mission BBQ is the perfect Summer lunch fare as well.
Sunday, August 30th ~ Noon to 3:00 p.m.***

Knights of Columbus Providence Hall

(behind St. Leo the Great Church

3700 Blenheim Boulevard, Fairfax)

\$15 cost for lunch and movie



***Please RSVP so that we have a lunch count:
dfalsinotti@gmail.com***



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Marianna Novielli	August 11
Tommaso Ammazzalorso	August 13
Russell DeRose	August 20
Carol Cassella	August 25
Dennis Lillo	August 25
Gloria Moscatello	August 26
Joanne Cooke	August 28
Eleanor Lillo	August 28
Joan Tortorelli	August 28

Cena e Conversazione

Carissimi,

"We all enjoyed our evening at Nannette and Gerry's new digs, experimenting with the apericena format while we engaged in great conversation. We tasted everything from Nannette and Gerry's calzone and savory tarts and Peter and Kathleen's tortellini with pesto to Francesca's cheese board and June and Joe's artichoke dip. After a bit of conversation (photo below) that included an exercise spotting grammatical errors, translating a joke, some tips on what phrases to use to sound more madrelingua, a few words about the new film "In Dante's Hand," and Leopardi's poem, "All'Italia," we closed out with Dennis's tiramisu. ~ Dennis



The goal of the IHL Language Group is to promote our Italian heritage through language by creating opportunities to practice and improve our ability to speak Italian. To that end, we strive to create a friendly and pleasant environment for our meetings. Specifically, we meet monthly in a social setting to speak as much Italian as we can.

Dite Formaggio!

**IHL President
Mike Gering
submitted this
picture of
himself reading
the *Declaration
of Independence*
at his local 4th of
July picnic.**



On Sunday, July 12th, IHL members gathered for a delicious buffet at the American Legion Post 177 in Fairfax to enjoy an early breakfast before heading to the theatre for a showing of “Young Washington”. We also bid goodbye and “buona fortuna” to IPP Dawn’s son, Alex, who was leaving right after breakfast for his Army basic training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, South Carolina. Alex was recognized by the many men and women veterans at the breakfast. Many of our members know Alex and we all wish him well, safe training and thank him for his commitment to serving and protecting our county.





Thank you, Kathy, for taking all of us through your family “heritage journey”. Your descriptions of your magnificent trip with your cousin are wonderful to read about. You have created memories to last a lifetime!

“For decades, my cousin MaryAnn, and I dreamed of taking a heritage journey to Italy. A trip that would reconnect us with our family roots and the stories we grew up hearing from our paternal grandmother. This year, that long-awaited dream finally became a reality. Walking the streets of Rome where our grandmother was born and raised was deeply emotional and unforgettable. We stood where her father once operated his hotel and organized Catholic tours between Rome and New York, helping pilgrims and travelers experience the beauty and faith of Italy generations ago. Even more meaningful was reflecting on our family's connection to Pope Leo XIII, our great-great uncle, and feeling the extraordinary sense of history surrounding us near the Vatican, where our family owned a condominium just across the street.

Rome itself was breathtaking - alive with history, faith, beauty, and memories at every turn. From there, our journey continued through some of Italy's most magnificent destinations: timeless art and architecture of Florence, the romantic canals of Venice, the peaceful spirituality of Assisi, and the rolling countryside of Tuscany. Each place offered its own unique charm, but together they created a deeper appreciation for our Italian heritage, culture, and traditions.

We completed our journey visiting Sorrento, Capri, and the Amalfi Coast, where the beauty of the sea and cliffs seemed almost unreal beyond the scenery, however, this trip was about family, legacy, and connection honoring those who came before us while creating memories of our own. After decades of anticipation, it became far more than a vacation; it was a meaningful homecoming to the country and history that shaped our family for generations.” ~ Kathy Reiter



Five Italian Americans Nominated for Six Emmys

(submitted by Joseph Scafetta Jr.)

The Academy of Television Arts & Sciences has announced its 2026 nominees for its Emmy Awards, and five Italian Americans are nominated for six Emmys in the 24 categories for individuals. There are four to eight nominees in each category.

Mark Ruffalo, 58, is nominated for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series for his role in "Task". He won an Emmy back in 2020.

Katherine LaNasa, 59, is nominated for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Drama Series for portraying a nurse in "The Pitt". She won the Emmy for playing the same character last year.

Linda Cardellini, 51, is nominated for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Limited or Anthology Series or Movie for her appearance in "DTF St. Louis". She was previously nominated for awards in 2013 and 2020, but did not win.

Lucia Aniello, 43, shares a nomination with two others for Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series for "Hacks". She has won three previous awards, two in 2021 and one in 2024.

Aniello also has a solo nomination for Outstanding Directing for a Comedy Series, again for "Hacks".

However, she is being opposed by Mary Lou Belli, 62, who is nominated for the same award for her work with "The Ms. Pat Show". Belli has two previous wins in 1997 and 2000. So, both Aniello and Belli cannot win in this category.



Eleanor Lillo has informed us that these two items were left behind after our Bocce Picnic and Tournament.

Please claim these items and arrange for pick up/return by emailing Ellie or Dennis at delillo1@verizon.net

Grazie!

**ORDER SONS & DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA
ITALIAN HERITAGE LODGE OF FAIRFAX #2517
2026-2027 OFFICERS**

<u>President:</u> 703-678-9361	Michael Gering micgering@gmail.com	<u>Lodge Trustees:</u> Alexander Genovese
<u>Vice President:</u> 703-980-6575	James Cocco jim@jwcoccopallc.com	Eleanor Lillo
<u>Imm. Past President:</u> 703-362-1724	Dawn Falsinotti dfalsinotti@gmail.com	Angelo Saladini Jr.
<u>Orator:</u> 703-831-7551	Tommaso Ammazalorso tammazza@gmail.com	Charles Santangelo
<u>Recording Secretary:</u> 703-533-8064	Joseph Scafetta Jr. joseph.scafetta.jr@gmail.com	Coletta Sciscilo
<u>Financial Secretary:</u> 703-489-9279	Steven Kramer steven.kramer52@gmail.com	
<u>Treasurer:</u> 703-241-7775	John Dovel jhn.dovel@gmail.com	
<u>Master of Ceremonies:</u>	Roy Schender	
<u>Mistress of Ceremonies:</u>	Sandra Schender	
<u>Guard:</u>	Dennis Lillo	
<u>Programs & Activities:</u>		<u>Membership:</u>
Chair:	Dawn Falsinotti	Chair: Dawn Falsinotti
Vice Chair:	Joseph Scafetta Jr.	Vice Chair: Steven Kramer
<u>Scholarship & Charity:</u>		<u>Publicity:</u>
Chair:	John Dovel	Chair: Joseph Scafetta Jr.
<u>Website:</u>		<u>Italian Language Group:</u>
Chair:	Dawn Falsinotti	Contact: Dennis Ferrara
Vice Chair:	Joseph Scafetta Jr.	dennisferrara@hey.com

Lodge Members Serving on the Grand Council of Virginia:

Joseph Scafetta Jr., Former State President and Trustee
Steven Kramer, Recording Secretary
Coletta Sciscilo, Trustee
Joseph Scafetta III, Trustee

Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America National Offices:

Steven Kramer, Budget, Audit & Finance Committee
Dawn Falsinotti, Convention Committee

La Bandiera Editor: Coletta Sciscilo (703) 795-2231 / Colette.sciscilo@gmail.com

Website: <https://italianheritagelodge.org> **Facebook:** OSDIA Fairfax

Instagram: sonsofitaly_ihl2517

Please patronize our advertisers



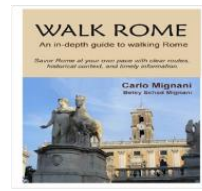
RE/MAX ALLEGIANCE
June La Marca, ABR, CRS, GRI, CDPE

Life Member, Top Producer
Relocation Specialist

5641 Burke Centre Parkway, Burke, VA 22015

Office -703-250-8500, june@junelamarca.com

Cell -703-477-7312, Fax 866-269-0389



CARLO AND BETSY MIGNANI have written a valuable guide to assist tourists who want to explore the Eternal City on their own with historical context and timely information. Available on Amazon, search “Walk Rome Mignani.”
www.walk-rome.com

YOUR AD HERE

YOUR AD HERE

YOUR AD HERE

YOUR AD HERE