



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***

**APRILE 2025
MESSAGGIO DELLA PRESIDENTESSA**

Cari amici,

Buon Primavera a tutti – I'm sure everyone is enjoying these warmer spring days as of late.

We are very busy around here getting ready to host the 39th Biennial Convention. It's being held here in Fairfax, April 25-26. All IHL members are invited, and we'd love to have you come out and meet fellow members from the other VA lodges as well as show your support. Please read further down in the newsletter for information and if you have any questions, give Colette or me a call.

Our next scheduled meeting will be on May 17th with Steve Livengood, a historian with the US Capitol Historical Society. He will give a presentation on the murals painted by Constantino Brumidi. The Bocce Picnic is scheduled for June 14 (rain date is June 21) at the Lillo's and we'll also host another of the Colonel's Kitchen's cooking classes in June.

We held the Installation and dinner on March 15th and welcomed new officers. A big thank you to those who served over the past few years. Jim Cocco and Nancy Perrelli are the only two no longer on the EC and thank you to them both for all they've contributed over the years.

Our beloved longtime member, Marianne Hallahan, has been in the hospital facing serious health challenges. We all love Marianne. Please keep her in your prayers.

I hope to see many of you at the convention.

*Best,
Dawn*

IHL members and families have always been so generous in the past when being asked for prayers and get well wishes for our members who are in ill health. We ask that you keep in your thoughts and prayers our valued Executive Council member and IHL Recording Secretary Marianne Hallahan. Please contact me if you would like more information and if you would like her address to send get-well wishes. - Colette Sciscilo

IL CALENDARIO

9 aprile	Executive Council Meeting*	6:30 p.m.	Kilroy's
17 aprile	Lunch Bunch*	Noon	Moby Dick House of Kat 9940-A Fairfax Blvd. Fairfax
20 aprile	<i>Easter Sunday</i>		
25-26 aprile	Grand Lodge of Virginia 39 th Biennial Convention	All day All day	Fairfax, VA
17 maggio	Guest Speaker – Steve Livengood*	5:00 p.m.	K of C Hall
14 giugno	Bocce at the Lillo's**	Noon	Home of the Lillo's
21 giugno	Rain Date for Bocce		

* RSVP to Dawn Falsinotti (falsinotti@yahoo.com)

** RSVP to Eleanor Lillo (delillo1@verizon.net)



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Susan Bonsiero	April 3
Carlo Mignani	April 3
Charles Santangelo	April 5
James Cocco	April 11
Marianne Hallahan	April 15
Teresa Scafetta	April 15
Donna Stoll	April 16
Flo Primeggia	April 20
Stephen Ulissi	April 21
Angelo Saladini	April 23
Fred Ingham	April 29
Chris Stacy	April 30



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Order Sons and Daughters
Of Italy in America
Grand Lodge of Virginia
39th Biennial Convention
Fairfax, Virginia
April 25-26, 2025

Italian Heritage Lodge will be hosting the OSDIA-GLVA 39th Biennial Convention and welcoming state officials, grand council members and local lodges from all over the Commonwealth of Virginia to Fairfax.

Invitations have been extended, our IHL delegates have been nominated and voted in, the agenda has been completed and plans for meetings, dinners and entertainment are being finalized.

Friday, April 25 – Knights of Columbus Hall, 3702 Blenheim
Boulevard, Fairfax (behind St. Leo Church)
Saturday, April 26 – Moose Lodge, 3529 Chain Bridge Road,
Fairfax

IHL members are welcome to attend as non-voting delegates, enjoy meals and entertainment throughout the two-day event. This is a chance to meet the Grand Lodge of Virginia officials and brothers and sisters from our sister lodges to show our guests some Italian Heritage hospitality.

Contacts: Dawn Falsinotti (falsinotti@yahoo.com)
Colette Sciscilo (colette.sciscilo@gmail.com)

Italian Heritage Lodge
Installation of Officers and Trustees
Saturday, March 15, 2025 ~ Fairfax, Virginia



The Italian Heritage Lodge of Fairfax, Va., installed its newly elected officers for the 2025-26 term on Saturday, March 15, 2025, in the Knights of Columbus Hall, 3702 Blenheim Blvd., Fairfax. In the front row from left to right, they are Master of Ceremonies Roy Schender, Mistress of Ceremonies Sandra Schender, Financial Secretary Steven Kramer, Immediate Past President Nicoletta Sciscilo, Vice President Michael Gering, President Dawn Falsinotti, Orator Joseph Scafetta Jr., and Guard Dennis Lillo. In the back row from left to right, they are Trustee Ray Stoll, Treasurer John Dovel, and Trustee Donna Stoll. Not shown are Recording Secretary Marianne Hallahan, Trustee Eleanor Lillo, Trustee Vivian Mott, and Trustee Maria Carolla.



The installation ceremony was conducted by former State Trustee and former Lodge President, Colonel John F. Asiello (U.S. Army, Retired). He was assisted by his wife Laura, who acted as the Herald.

Photo credit: Tommaso Ammazalorso





Serving Those Who Served

Chef Nick - "The Colonel" The Colonel's Kitchen

As a treat to our members, Chef Nick taught a "Knife Skills" class and his students prepared part of the meal for the Installation Dinner on March 15th.



*Assembling
and
instructing
the chefs –
Roy and
Mike make a
great team!*



*Chefs Nick and Arya
Schender.*



*Our IHL members and guests were instructed
by Chef Nick and the two terrific chefs that
assisted him.*



Photographs courtesy of Sandra Schender

Benvvenuti!

This month we welcome our newest member, Robert West of Alexandria, VA. Robert found IHL through our website and we are all excited to meet him and share our Italian family heritage, traditions, and experiences with him through our monthly events.

Speaking of our website – Grazie mille to Eleanor Lillo who, along with her many other duties, has almost singlehandedly updated our National website. After many hours teaming up with President Dawn and the national office of OSDIA, we are now online, and our new address is www.vaosdia.org

Our local lodge address is still www.italianheritagelodge.org

On May 17, 2025, our monthly meeting will include a power point presentation by Mr. Steve Livengood. We will welcome Mr. Livengood who is a historian from the US Capitol Historical Society. He will give us a presentation about the murals painted by Constantino Brumidi. More information will be provided in the May issue of La Bandiera.

“Cena e Conversazione” Saturday, March 22, 2025

On Saturday afternoon, March 22nd, the Italian Language Group, Cene e Conversazione, met at Pie-Tanza in Arlington. With nine language enthusiasts attending, the food was delicious, the conversazione was interesting and flowed quite smoothly. Le pizze, le insalate e i cappuccini erano tutti deliziosi!

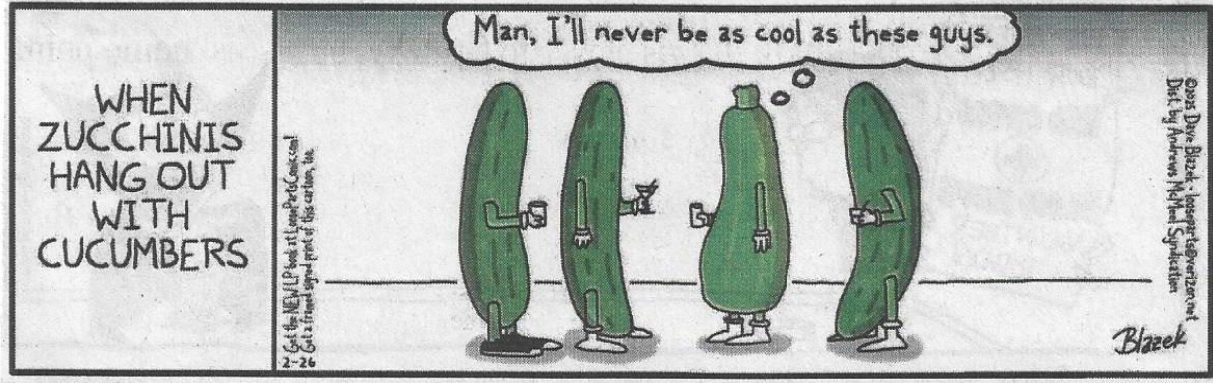


If you have any questions about the “Cena e Conversazione” monthly gathering, please contact Dennis Ferrara at dennisferrara@hey.com

Sonny's Funnies

LOOSE PARTS

DAVE BLAZEK



FRANK AND ERNEST

TOM THAVES



PRICKLY CITY



**ORDER SONS & DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA
ITALIAN HERITAGE LODGE #2517
2025-2026 OFFICERS**

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Lodge Trustees:
Maria Carolla
Eleanor Lillo
Vivian Mott
Donna Stoll
Ray Stoll

Master of Ceremony: Roy Schender
Mistress of Ceremony: Sandy Schender

Guard: Dennis Lillo

Education Chair:

Membership Chair: Sharon Peruzzi Strauchs
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Webmaster:

Publicity Chair: Joseph Scafetta, Jr.
joseph.scafetta.jr@gmail.com

Lodge Members Serving on the Grand Council of Virginia:

Joseph Scafetta, Jr., Former State President
Coletta Sciscilo, Trustee
Marianne Hallahan, Arbitration Committee
Lodge State Deputy: Mary Louise Smith

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Website: www.italianheritagelodge.org **Facebook:** OSDIA Fairfax
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Ricotta Cake

Ingredients:

1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
2 ½ teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt

¾ cups (1 ½ sticks) unsalted butter, softened
1 ½ cups fresh whole-milk ricotta (drained to remove wetness)
1 ½ cups granulated sugar
3 large eggs, at room temperature
1 ½ teaspoons pure vanilla extract

Confectioner's sugar for dusting (optional)

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 350°F and position a rack in the center. Grease a 9-inch loaf pan with butter and dust with flour or line the pan with parchment paper (bottom and sides).

In a medium bowl, gently mix the flour, baking powder and salt and set aside.

In an electric mixer with paddle attachment, cream together the softened butter, drained ricotta, and sugar on medium speed until smooth and light, about 2 minutes. Beat in the room temperature eggs, one at a time. Add in the vanilla extract.

On low speed, beat in dry ingredients to combine them, scraping the sides of the bowl then beat the batter for 30 seconds on medium speed.

Pour batter into prepared pan and use a spatula to smooth the top. Give the pan a few gentle taps on the counter to remove any air pockets.

Bake the cake for 15 minutes and then turn the pan 180 degrees to ensure even browning. Lower the oven temperature to 325°F and continue baking about 45 minutes more, until the cake springs back lightly when touched and the sides have begun to pull away from the pan, and the cake tester inserted in the center of the cake comes out clean.

Allow the cake to cool in the pan on a wire rack for 15 minutes, then carefully invert it onto the rack to cool completely.

Dust cake lightly with confectioner's sugar before serving.

Ricotta Cake can be wrapped in plastic wrap and kept at room temperature for up to 3 days and can be frozen in plastic wrap and placed in a seal-able plastic bag.

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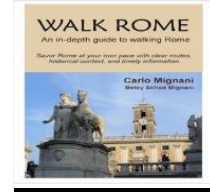
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CARLO AND BETSY MIGNANI have written a valuable guide to assist tourists who want to explore the Eternal City on their own with historical context and timely information. Available on Amazon, search "Walk Rome Mignani." www.walk-rome.com



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