



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***

**MAGGIO 2025
MESSAGGIO DELLA PRESIDENTESSA**

Cari amici,

Happy May 1st! A holiday in Italy and Europe, La Festa dei Lavori – Worker’s Day, is kind of the equivalent of our Labor Day. So, enjoy this beautiful day.

This past weekend, IHL hosted the 39th Biennial Convention of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. I’m honored that Michael Polo, President of OSDIA, made a surprise visit and was in attendance both days. Mike spoke about the organization and its path forward but also took the time to speak with anyone and everyone. Such a warm and congenial man.

While planning and preparing for this convention had many twists and turns in the road, the end result was quite the success. Good food, good wine, good company, was enjoyed by all, not to mention the accomplishments of all the convention business.

*These special events can’t happen without the hands of many. I want to say a big **THANK YOU** to Colette Sciscilo, Mike Gering, Steve Kramer, Roy Schender, Sandy Schender, Maria Carolla, Donna Stoll, Ray Stoll, Eric Schena, Chef Nick, Nancy Perrelli, Tom Ammazalorso, Alex Falsinotti and David Davee. Also, contributing were John Dovel, John Asiello, Eleanor Lillo, June La Marca and Betsy Mignani.*

Rounding out our program, we had three presenters, Betsy Mignani, Walk Rome, a tour company specializing in Rome, owned by Betsy and Carlo Mignani, Francesco Isgro’ President, The Italian American Museum of Washington, DC, and Chef Nick, Founder of The Colonel’s Kitchen, a non-profit established to empower wounded warriors, service-disabled Veterans and First Responders, and their families through a program centered around culinary arts and food business.

A huge Thank You to all that made this convention a success!

See you all on May 17th.

*Best,
Dawn*



IL CALENDARIO

11 maggio

Festa della mamma

14 maggio

Executive Committee
Meeting*

6:30 p.m.

Kilroy's

15 maggio

Lunch Bunch*

Noon

Silver Diner
12251 Fair Lakes Parkway
Fairfax

17 maggio

Dinner & Guest Speaker –
Dr. Steven Livengood**

5:00 p.m.

K of C Hall

24 maggio

Cena e Conversazione***

TBD

TBD

26 maggio

Memorial Day

2 giugno

Festa della Repubblica

14 giugno

Bocce at the Lillo's****

Noon-4:00 p.m.

Home of the Lillos

15 giugno

Festa del papà

21 giugno

Rain Date for Bocce at the Lillo's

- * RSVP to Dawn Falsinotti (falsinotti@yahoo.com)
- ** RSVP to Steve Kramer (steven.kramer52@gmail.com)
- *** RSVP to Dennis Ferrara (dennisferrara@hey.com)
- **** RSVP to Eleanor Lillo (delillo1@verizon.net)

MAY BIRTHDAYS

June La Marca	May 10
Joseph Scafetta Jr.	May 10
John Asiello	May 17
John Dovel	May 23

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Sandy & Roy Schender
May 11
Terri & Robert Sherretta
May 18

Please continue to pray for our dear friend, 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



ORDER
**Sons and
Daughter
of Italy**
IN AMERIC

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

Italian Heritage Lodge hosted the OSDIA-GLVA 39th Biennial Convention this past weekend and welcomed National and State officials, Grand Council members and local lodges from all over the Commonwealth of Virginia to Fairfax. This was an opportunity for IHL members to meet the Grand Lodge of Virginia officials, delegates, and brothers and sisters from our state lodges – Roma Lodge, Giuseppe Verdi Lodge, Italo American Citizens Lodge and Peninsula Italian American Lodge – and to show our guests some Italian Heritage hospitality. A fantastic surprise was the attendance for the two-day event of Michael Polo, President of OSDIA, who took the opportunity to speak about the National organization, answer questions, dine with us, take pictures, and socialize with all in attendance. A highlight for IHL was receiving the biennial 2023-2025 First Place Merit Point Award.

Grand Lodge of Virginia Orator, Paul Siebeking, presents the 2023-2025 First Place Merit Point Award to IHL President Dawn Falsinotti



IHL Delegates to the GLVA Convention



Eric Schena, Joseph Scafetta III, Teresa Talierco Scafetta, Joseph Scafetta Jr., Steven Kramer, Dawn Falsinotti, Colette Sciscilo, Russell DeRose, Floriana Primeggia, Carmine Primeggia, and Micheal Gering



Betsy Mignani and June La Marca checking in Russell DeRose on the first day of the convention.



OSDIA National President, Michael Polo, welcomes the convention delegates, along with State President Aldo Funai, Jr. and State 1st Vice President Terry DeLucia.



Front row: Bob Amante, State Trustee and Chaplain, and Jim DeLucia, State Trustee. Back row: IHL Financial Secretary Steve Kramer, who volunteered to be State Recording Secretary for the convention weekend.







Please join us in thanking those who gave so much of their time, effort, strength, ideas, talents.....and so much more than that, to tirelessly devote themselves for the good of IHL as we hosted the 39th biennial convention.

Convention Crew

Dawn Falsinotti, Colette Sciscilo, Mike Gering, Steve Kramer, Roy Schender, Sandy Schender, Maria Carolla, Donna Stoll, Ray Stoll, Eric Schena, Chef Nick, Nancy Perrelli, Tom Ammazalorso, Alex Falsinotti, and David Davee.

Contributors

John Dovel, John Asiello, Eleanor Lillo, June La Marca and Betsy Mignani.

Photographs courtesy of Mike Gering, Sandra Schender and Ray Stoll

Dr. Steven Livengood
Presentation on
“Constantino Brumidi & His Frescoes Inside the U.S. Capitol”
Saturday, May 17, 2025 @ 5:00 p.m.
Knights of Columbus Hall behind
St. Leo the Great Church, 3702 Blenheim Blvd., Fairfax

Steven Livengood was born and raised in Kansas. As a college freshman in 1965, he volunteered to work in his congressman's office in Washington, D.C. He learned about the U.S. Capitol building by giving tours to visitors from his home district. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from American University in 1969. He then joined the U.S. Army and served a tour of duty in Vietnam. After his honorable discharge, Steve used his G.I. benefits to become a Ph.D. candidate in Recent U.S. History at Emory University in Atlanta.

After graduation in 1973, Steve returned to Capitol Hill as a resident and became a member of the United States Capitol Historical Society. The USCHS is a private not-for-profit organization chartered by the U.S. Congress to develop enhanced experiences related to the history of the Capitol building and the institutions that are housed there. Steve began his working career as an association executive and then as a public affairs consultant. He has worked in various capacities in the political and policy circles in Washington. In 1994, he volunteered as a tour guide in the Capitol building. Four years later, Steve became the coordinator for the volunteer programs of the USCHS. He is now its Chief Guide and Public Historian with the duties of leading VIP and specialized tours of the Capitol building, training staff guides and volunteers and organizing promotional activities for societal programs. His specialty is interpreting the Capitol building with historical background on the meaning of activities and art works as the icons of representative democracy, seeing familiar things from a deeper perspective. For his work in promoting the interpretation of the Capitol building by professional city guides, he was given the Tourism Industry Award by the Guild of Professional Tour Guides of Washington. Steve estimates that he gives about 300 tours annually!

Steve resides on the new waterfront in southwest Washington. His two children and two grandchildren live in northern Virginia.

As our guest speaker on May 17, Dr. Livengood will make a Power Point presentation about frescoes painted inside the Capitol building by Constantino Brumidi who was born in 1805 and died in 1880. Steve became interested in Brumidi while he watched the thirty-year project to bring Brumidi's frescoes to vibrant restoration. He became friends with the curator who oversaw the restoration and with the art conservator who kept him informed about the triumphant revelation of Brumidi's master works. For his work in publicizing and promoting the life and legacy of Brumidi, Steve was nominated for the honor of Cavaliere d'Italia.

Let us give a warm welcome to Dr. Steven Livengood!

Dr. Steven Livengood



BOCCE AT THE LILLO'S



When: Saturday, June 14, 2025

Rain date is Saturday, June 21, 2025

Where: 5104 Colebrook Place
Alexandria, VA 22312

Time: 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Hosted by
Eleanor and Dennis Lillo

Menu: Grilled Hamburgers & Hot Dogs with all the Fixings,
Sausage & Peppers, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Desserts
& Cold Beverages

**There will be a charge of \$15 per person for this event.
Make check payable to IHL and mail to 5104 Colebrook Place,
Alexandria, VA 22312.**

Please confirm your attendance by June 10th!

**RSVP who will be attending and who will
play in the bocce tournament.**

By email: delillo1@verizon.net

By telephone: (703) 354-2454

**This event is sponsored by the
Italian Heritage Lodge of Fairfax
for Lodge members and their families.**

Come and enjoy the fun!

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

President: Dawn Falsinotti
703-362-1724 falsinotti@yahoo.com
Vice-President: Michael Gering
703-678-9361 micgering@gmail.com
Imm. Past-President: Coletta Sciscilo
703-795-2231 colette.sciscilo@gmail.com
Orator: Joseph Scafetta, Jr.
703-533-8064 joseph.scafetta.jr@gmail.com
Recording Secy.: Marianne Hallahan
703-968-8330 rumbarunt@aol.com
Financial Secy.: Steven Kramer
703-489-9279 steven.kramer52@gmail.com
Treasurer: John Dovel
703-241-7775 jhn.dovel@gmail.com

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
sharon@tlc-nv.com

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 and Trustee
Steven Kramer, Recording Secretary
Coletta Sciscilo, Trustee
Joseph Scafetta III, Trustee

La Bandiera Editor: Coletta Sciscilo (703) 795-2231 / Colette.sciscilo@gmail.com
Website: <https://italianheritagelodge.org> **Facebook:** OSDIA Fairfax
Instagram: sonsofitaly_ihl2517

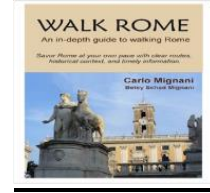
Please patronize our advertisers



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



4 J WEALTH MANAGEMENT, LLC

Jeff Sciscilo, CFA

A registered Wealth Advisor
703-566-9573, Jeff@4jwealth.com
1355 Beverly Road, Suite 310
McLean, VA 22101

YOUR AD HERE

Cortona Academy, Grades 7-12



Sharon Peruzzi Strauchs, Director

Since 1992, one of the best
private academies on the East Coast
Discounts for IHL members, families and
friends

[Www.CortonaLearning.com](http://www.CortonaLearning.com)
703-464-0034; Sharon@TLC-NV.com

YOUR AD HERE