

website: sonsofitalyakron.org



Sons of Italy in America
Akron Lodge 685
418 Keith Ave
Akron, Ohio 44313

President: Patrick Puhak

Vice President: Vince Murdocco

Orator: Joe Rinella III

Past President: Jack Schifano

Financial Secretary : Andrea Conti

Treasurer: Debi Rauckhorst

Recording Secretary: Michelle Hujar

Sgt. At Arms: John Hujar

Trustees

Dee Dee DiCresce

Janet Gliha

Rosina Puhak

Ed Rauckhorst

Mary Schifano

Mistress of Ceremonies: Nancy Rinella

Master of Ceremonies: Dewey Wineland

Historian: Don Ferrante

Membership: Carol Wilson

Chaplain-Dennis Paonessa

Akron Lodge 685 Newsletter

January, February, March 2019

Notes from the President:

As I reflect on the past year, our Lodge has made significant accomplishments. We had a very successful Reverse Raffle in April. We awarded 2 scholarships and initiated 8 new members at our banquet in May. Our Lodge had another outstanding booth at the Italian American Festival and we sponsored one scholarship recipient for the Italian Council.

August gave us a beautiful day for a picnic, and in September we had a sell out crowd for our Card party. The Wine Tasting had wonderful Italian wines paired with yummy appetizers.

At the Columbus Day Cotillion we sponsored two debutantes and 3 of our members received the Merit Award. At our Christmas party we gave donations to 5 local charities and honored two of our members with the Pete Silletti Award.

Also in October we sold beer at the Rolling Thunder Fundraiser at the Summit County Fairgrounds. I want to thank Ed Rauckhorst, John Hujar and Eric Maghes who volunteered for this event, especially since it falls on the same day as the Columbus Day Cotillion.

On October 24, about 12 of our members participated in the Grand Lodge Fundraiser at Applebee's Restaurant in Montrose. The money raised goes to help pay the dues for members age 16-21. I want to thank Sue and Terry Lattavo for hosting this event. We had a great time listening to their travel experiences.

Mark Your Calendar:

January 20- General Meeting 1:30pm

Anthony Kucko Community Room

February 17- General Meeting 1:30pm

Anthony Kucko Community Room

March 17- General Meeting 1:30pm

Anthony Kucko Community Room

*April 7-Reverse Raffle-St George
Community Center*

April 28-General Meeting 1:30 pm

Anthony Kucko Funeral Home

May 1- Initiation/Scholarship Dinner

June 13-15-Grand Lodge Convention

June 23- General Meeting 1:30pm

Anthony Kucko Community Room

July 11-13-Italian American Festival

Lock 3, Akron

*July 11-13-Sons of Italy Booth at the
Italian American Festival*



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Columbus Day Cotillion

The Columbus Day Cotillion was held on Saturday, October 13, 2018 at Tangier's Restaurant. We are proud that two of our members Michelle Hujar and Tomasina Elavsky who were co-chairs did a marvelous job, which included a video presentation showing the debutantes. Congratulations to this year's Merit Award recipients: Ed Rauckhorst and John and Michelle Hujar.

Memorial Mass/Brunch

On November 3, 2018 our annual Memorial Mass was held at St Anthony's Church followed by a brunch at the Venue in Tallmadge. I want to thank Toni Ross and Dennis Paonessa for being in charge again this year. I wish that more members would attend this event. The members who have passed in the last year were: Leonard Falcone, Nancy Lowther, Julia Paonessa and Louise Pollard.

Toy Wrapping

Many of our members gathered on November 16, 2018 and wrapped over 250 presents for Project RISE at the Anthony Funeral Home Community Room. I want to thank Connie and Bob Paparone and Don and Cheryl Derrig and the rest of the committee for making sure we had the supplies for wrapping the toys and getting the refreshments for everyone.

Holiday Tree Festival

Thanks to everyone who volunteered on November 24 at the Children's Hospital Holiday Tree Festival. Everyone who was there had a good time and many people came to see the trees. I would like to thank Dennis Paonessa for creating the Tuscan, Italy style tree which won a ribbon. We will be creating another tree for the Festival in 2019. Dennis is already gathering ornaments for next year's tree.

Christmas Party

Over 150 members and guests enjoyed the dinner at St George's Fellowship Hall on December 1, 2018 for the Akron Lodge Christmas Party. After dinner, everyone enjoyed the sounds of the Gene Fiocca Band. We made donations of \$1,000 each to the following charities: ACBC Akron-Aluminum Cans for Burned Children, Access Inc, Haven of Rest Ministries, IBH Reach Project and Summit County Veterans Family Services. Receiving the Pete Silletti Award were Joe and Nancy Rinella who have chaired the Initiation/Scholarship Dinner for many years. Also we are looking for suggestions from our members on Local Charities to which we can donate for 2019.

Scholarships

The Akron Lodge awards scholarships to members or children of members who are entering college or currently in college. The deadline for applications is April 1, 2018. The application is on our website or you may contact me at 330-714-0341 for an application. I also want to thank Past President Guido Margida and his wife Rose for making a donation of \$1000.00 for a scholarship in 2018. I am pleased to announce that Guido and Rose have donated \$1500.00 for a scholarship for 2019. Thank you so much!

*Please notify **Bess Ratcliff** if you know of any member that is ill or in the hospital at (330) 896-9287*

*If you know someone who would like to be a member, please contact Membership Chairperson **Carol Wilson** at 330-836-5291.*

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Congratulations!



Buon Compleanno!

gennaio

Kathryn Frazzini Culver
Cheryl Koshar
Guido Margida, Sr.
Aaron Rini
Vita Signorino-Moore
Thomas Teodosio
John Thomas
John Villilo
Anna Zampelli

febbraio

Thomas Abbott
James Caruso
Zachary Conti
John Deputch
Tomasina Elavsky
Tara Falcone-Pizer
Jackie Germano-Cassano
Joseph Pallotta
Lenora Rinella
Jack Schifano
Ross Signorino
Dave Tersigni
Daniel Zampelli

marzo

Charlotte Buzzelli
Edward DiCresce
Jeff Gliha
John Hujar
Eric Massoli
Josephine Murdocco
Vincent Murdocco
Donna Marie Pallotta
Michael Pallotta
Yolanda Schoblocher
Virginia Ventrone
Jane Webb



