

website: sonsofitalyakron.org



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

President: Patrick Puhak

Vice President: John Hujar

Orator: Jim DeMarco

Past President: Jack Schifano

Financial Secretary : Andrea Conti

Treasurer: Debi Rauckhorst

Recording Secretary: Michelle Hujar

Sgt. At Arms: Carol Morganti

Trustees

Mikki DeMarco

Janet Gliha

Ed Rauckhorst

Dave Tersigni

Carol Wilson

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 2020

Notes from the President:

As we begin a new decade, I hope that our Lodge can grow our membership. At a recent Grand Lodge meeting, the President of the Grand Lodge of Ohio asked that everyone try to approach an Italian that is a neighbor or belongs to your church to see if they would want to become a member of the largest Italian American Organization in the United States. Officially we are now called Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America. Of course if you aren't Italian you may still join as a social member. The dues are the same, and the only difference is a social member cannot hold an elective office.

Speaking of our officers, I regret that one of our Trustees Dave Tersigni resigned as a trustee due to other obligations. I thank him for serving as a Trustee. There will be a special election to fill Dave's unexpired term of office at our meeting on January 19.

Upcoming Events

*January 19-General Meeting 1:30 pm
Kucko Anthony Funeral Home
February 16- General Meeting 1:30 pm
Kucko Anthony Funeral Home
March 15- General Meeting 1:30 pm
Kucko Anthony Funeral Home
March 21-Reverse Raffle St George's
Ridgewood Rd, Fairlawn
April 19- General Meeting 1:30 pm
Kucko Anthony Funeral Home
Covered dish meeting
May-6-Initiation/Scholarship Dinner
The Venue Tallmadge Circle
June 7- General Meeting 1:30 pm
Kucko Anthony Funeral Home
July 9-11-Italian-American Festival
Lock 3 Park
August TBA-Lodge Annual Picnic
September 20- General Meeting 1:30 pm
Kucko Anthony Funeral Home
September-TBA Card Party
October 18- General Meeting 1:30 pm
Kucko Anthony Funeral Home
November 20-Toy Wrapping 7:00 pm
Kucko Anthony Funeral Home*

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Memorial Mass/ Brunch

We remembered our deceased members who passed away during the year with a Mass at St Anthony's Church on November 3, 2019 followed by a delicious brunch at the Venue in Tallmadge. The 3 members we remembered were Rudy DiDonato, Mary Bratta and Virginia Ventrone. I thank Dennis Paonessa for serving as the chairperson for this event and we had good attendance that day.

Toy Wrapping

The Lodge hosted the Toy Wrapping party on November 22, 2019 to benefit Project RISE. Chairperson Mary Schifano along with Jack Schifano, Bob and Connie Papparone, and Don and Shirley Derrig are to be commended for taking charge of this event. We had many members come to help wrap the gifts and we were done by 7:45 pm and had wrapped over 200 gifts.

Holiday Tree Festival

Our Lodge decorated and donated a Christmas Tree for the Children's Hospital Holiday Tree Festival. Thanks to Dennis Paonessa and Carole Morganti who set up the tree at the John S Knight Center. Then on November 30, a group of our members volunteered their Saturday evening to work at the Tree Festival by selling raffle tickets and Christmas decorations

Chairpersons Needed

I am looking for someone to organize the Sons of Italy booth at the Italian-American Festival July 9-11. It is a lot of work, but festival patrons look forward to visiting our booth for the meatball subs and sausage sandwiches. Andrea and John Conti did a splendid job these last few years so we are hoping to continue this booth.

Christmas Party

On Saturday, December 7, 2019 almost 200 members and guests attended our Annual Christmas party at the St George Church Hall in Fairlawn. I want to thank John and Michelle Hujar for doing another outstanding job in organizing this event. There was plenty of good food and drink, and lots of great raffle prizes donated by the Lodge and members. I was also happy that representatives from the five charities were able to attend and accept our donations. The charities were The Akron Canton Food Bank, The ARC of Ohio, Falls Cancer Club, Greyhound Adoption of Ohio and The Kidney Foundation of Summit County. The Lodge presented our Pete Silletti Award to Ed and Debi Rauckhorst. Thanks to John Hujar and Eric Maghes who helped write up the award. Ed and Debi both tirelessly work not only for the Sons of Italy volunteering for our events as well as from the Italian Council. It was my pleasure to present this award on behalf of the Akron Lodge,

Reverse Raffle

As you can see from the Calendar of Events our Reverse Raffle is Saturday, March 21 at St George in Fairlawn. Toni Ross is getting the tickets ready and will have further details at an upcoming meeting.

*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 or applications can be printed from our website*

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Congratulations!



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Buon Compleanno!

gennaio

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

febbraio

Thomas Abbott
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

Kathlyn Brunn
Charlotte Buzzelli
Edward DiCresce
Jeff Gliha
John Hujar
Eric Massoli
Kay Metzler
Josephine Murdocco
Vincent Murdocco
Donna Marie Pallotta
Michael Pallotta
Yolanda Schoblocher
Vincent Sgro
Jane Webb