



North Haven Sons & Daughters of Italy
Lodge 2805
P.O. Box 193, North Haven, CT 06473

NORTH HAVEN SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY LODGE # 2805
DEC - 2023 NEWSLETTER
NEXT MEETING DECEMBER 5

How to contact our officers

Susan Velleca, President	203-239-2999
Frank Mentone, Vice President	203-410-4254
Ralph Casciello, Orator	203-239-0285
Marybeth Madigan, Recording Secretary	Upon Request
Regina Najarian, Financial Secy.,	203-376-8524
Mark DeFranco, Treasurer,	203-213-5378
Len Ricciardelli, Immediate Past President	203-507-6509
Denise Krause, Past President,	203-710-7397
Neil Velleca Jr., Past President	203-239-2999
Marianne Ciarleglio, Mistress Ceremonies	203-239-2868
Joya Dolzani, Guard,	Upon Request

Trustees:

Sharon Ricciardelli, 203-239-0215 /
Sallyann Gill, 203-645-8177 / Gail Norup, 203-494-1820
Nick Mastroianni, 203-430-0411
Gale Iannone 203-239-0454/Gary Takach, 203-623-4398
SueAnn Mentone, 203-710-4186
Angela Vitti, 203-274-0001 / Jon Najarian, Upon Request
Website Address northhavenlodge2805.club

Greetings Members,

Our Lodge has a couple ways to communicate with our members. We have a monthly newsletter and minutes. Both are emailed and the newsletter is also posted on our website. usually in the 3rd or 4th week of the month.

You may also have them mailed to you. If you would like to receive your these in the mail please let Sue know. To sign up to receive our Lodge emails please go to our website, once there, scroll down, you will notice an email sign up form. Fill it in and subscribe. Our Website address is:

<https://northhavenlodge2805.club>

Our Lodge email address is

nhsdilodge2805@outlook.com. If you have something you would like to request us to share in the newsletter, on our website, Facebook page or in an email please email Lenny at Lric56@yahoo.com or Sue at snoozie321@outlook.com

Deadline for newsletter is the 20th of the month. We also send out emails with important updates, good and welfare, and when committee meetings are scheduled.

President's Message

As this year is coming to an end and we can look back on our many fun and successful events. Our lodge is blessed to have many members willing to step up to run and work at various events. I would like to thank all of you who ran or worked at the events throughout the year. We couldn't have successful events without having members who are willing to work and support our events.

Our Community Outreach Committee has one more event this year, the Toy Drive. Don't forget to bring a unwrapped toy, with batteries if needed, to our December meeting. You can also drop it off at one of our three drop locations around North Haven.

To kick off 2024 we are having our 20th Anniversary Party on January 6th. Come and enjoy a fun evening with friends, new and old. Tickets will be available at the December meeting.

Check the newsletter for more events and get your 2024 calendar ready for the new year. I want to wish you a Very Merry Christmas and Happy and safe New Year!

See you at the meeting.

Susan

*Let's Celebrate Christmas with a Potluck supper
before our December meeting on December 5.
Make your best main course, appetizer or dessert.
Let's start at 6:00. RSVP to Frank at
203-410-4254 or fmentonejr@comcast.net
Please let me know by December 1.*



It's That Time Again.

Saturday February 24, 2024.

St Frances Cabrini - 7:00

\$15.00 per person

Call Sally at

203-645-8177

Community Outreach

Our committee would like to once again thank our members for the generous support of our diaper drive! What we delivered filled a large pallet, and it was mostly due to members' giving.

Our next venture is our annual December toy drive for Yale New Haven Toy Closet. This is a drive that Donna and Ralph have led for the Lodge for many years, and it never gets old!

For those not familiar, the Yale New Haven Toy Closet insures that every child that stays in the hospital leaves with a new toy. This helps offset the trauma of being in the hospital. So please help by bringing a new, unwrapped toy to the December 5th meeting. Please provide batteries if needed. The toy can be for any age. If you can't make the meeting please

Additionally, we will once again put collection boxes at Arnold's Jewelers, Hello Gorgeous Hair Salon and Nick's Char Pit Restaurant. Feel free to drop the donation there if you can't bring it to the meeting, or contact Denise at 203-710-7397 and she will assist in coordinating pick up for the donation. A new idea we are trying this year is that we will be collecting toys in person at the Five Below on Universal Drive. We will have a table set up there on Saturday, December 9th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

We have more ideas to sort out for other activities for the New Year, and will share them as we finalize them. In the meantime, we thank everyone for their ongoing support.



Join the group for Dominoes.

Friday, January 19, 2024 7:00

St. Frances Cabrini Church

Only \$10. per person.

To reserve your spot call

Peachy at 203-239-2868



**Happy
Valentine's
Day**

**Happy Valentine's Day
Join your friends at a
Valentine Porchetta Dinner.
Saturday, February 10, 2024
St. Frances Cabrini Church Hall**

**Porchetta, Pasta, Vegetables, Salad,
Desserts & Coffee or Tea.**

Entertainment & Raffle

\$20 for Members, \$25 for Non-Members

For Tickets call Frank at

203-410- 4254 or fmentonejr@comcast.net



**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
&
MERRY CHRISTMAS
TO US!
LET'S CELEBRATE!**



**SONS & DAUGHTERS OF
ITALY**



**LODGE 2805
Is Celebrating its**

**20th Anniversary and
Christmas Holiday Party**

Saturday, January 6th, (Little Christmas)

**Join Us at Violi's II Restaurant at the
Wallingford Country Club.**

**195 Long Hill Road, Wallingford
Full Dinner Menu – Cash Bar 6-11
Entertainment by Alex Pericas**

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**Price: Members \$50.00 per person
Non-members \$60.00 per person**

**For Tickets or more information contact
Neil Velleca at navelleca@hotmail.com
or call 203-239-2999**

Deadline for tickets 12-22-2023



LA BEFANA

Congratulations Gale Iannone

Gale has lived in North Haven all her life. She graduated from North Haven High School, she continued her education at Central Connecticut State College (now University). After receiving her degree, she went on to train as a clinical Psychiatric Technician with clinical training at the Connecticut Valley Hospital in Middletown and the VA Hospital in West Haven. She was hired at the Connecticut Mental Health Center in New Haven and was part of the first team to open a 7-bed in-patient, emergency, 24-hour care unit in CMHC. It was the first psychiatric care unit of its kind in Connecticut.

While working for the CMHC, she married her first husband in 1967. The following year she gave birth to her son, Jonathan. She then took an 11-year family leave to raise her son and make a home for her family. Also, during that time, she raised, trained and developed a championship bloodline of German Shorthaired Pointers, a hunting dog breed. Her dogs were shown in field, obedience, and breed shows. Her kennel became well known in the U.S. and Canada, and she became an invited judge for specialty breed competitions for German Shorthaired Pointers.

In 1979, she returned to work at Yale University. In 1983, she was one of 13 Yale employees who began to organize Yale's clerical and technical employees to form a union to improve salaries, benefits, and working conditions. She was a founding-member of what became Local 34, Federation of University Employees. Their first contract was ratified in 1984 after a 16-week strike against Yale University and she became an officer on their first executive board. Their union and contract became models across the country for university and college employees to organize unions of their own. Gale retired from Yale in 2017, and still advocates for workers' rights and women's equality.

Besides many U.S. states, Gale has traveled to Italy, Germany, and Holland, with her son, Jonathan, and then Russia, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Hong Kong, China, Japan, Venezuela, and many Caribbean Islands with her now husband, Gary Takach, Gary is a retired master carpenter and now drives for Yale, Uber and privately. He is also a member of the Corinthian Masonic Lodge #63 of North Haven. Gale and Gary are very proud of their kids: Gale's son Jonathan, living in Massachusetts, and Gary's daughters, Amanda, living in North Carolina, and Jennifer living in North Haven. They also have fabulous grandchildren....Sophie 23 (Jonathan's daughter), Jaden 14 (Jennifer's son) and Mirabelle 13 (Amanda's daughter). Gale's household is now co-ruled with her rescued and very much loved orange tabby cat named Prince Artoo, and she very much enjoys her fish pond full of Japanese Koi fish.

Gale and Gary are both members of the North Haven Sons and Daughters of Italy, Lodge 2805, since the lodge began. Gale has been and continues to be a very much appreciated member of the lodge. Because of her organizing several very successful Comedy shows, the lodge has been able to generously donate funds to many charities. She is currently working on organizing another comedy show for 2024. In the meantime, she has lots of fun planning and bringing "dinner and a movie" nights to the lodge 2-3 times a year, and even playing La Befana at past Christmas parties for kids.

Gale was joined at the dinner by about 60 family members, Lodge members and friends. Please make time at the meeting to congratulate Gale



