



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**  
**FEBRUARY - 2026 NEWSLETTER**  
**NEXT MEETING FEBRUARY 9**

**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
Guard, OPEN	
Trustees:	
Sharon Ricciardelli, 203-239-0215	
Sallyann Gill, 203-645-8177	
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	<a href="http://northhavenlodge2805.club">northhavenlodge2805.club</a>

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> 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](http://northhavenlodge2805.club)

Our Lodge email address is [nhsdilodge2805@outlook.com](mailto: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](mailto:Lric56@yahoo.com) or Sue at [snoozie321@outlook.com](mailto:snoozie321@outlook.com)

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

# President's Message

Welcome to Winter! I hope you are all safe and warm.

We have a new home! At our last meeting we voted, unanimously, to move locations as well as our meeting night.

- **Meeting Day: The second Monday of every month**, our next meeting will be on February 9th
- **Location; North Haven Congregational Church**, 28 Church Street (across from Green) North Haven. Our first meeting at our new location will be on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

There are two entrances to the hall.

- Exterior stairs on the side of the building in the parking lot. These are relatively steep so if you are not sure there is a second way.
- Follow the walkway to a set of double doors at the front. There is a lobby with an elevator.

For February we have a few things rescheduled. The dinner group at Brazi in New Haven is rescheduled to February 8th.

We also are going to reschedule the Porchetta Dinner to a new Date. We will announce the date as soon as we have one.

Our next general committee meeting will be on Monday, February 16 at **North Haven Congregational Church**.

The CT Grand Lodge is holding its 2<sup>nd</sup> Carnevale on March 7<sup>th</sup>, there are details in the newsletter. We have tickets for the event **also 50/50 raffle tickets at \$25 each or 5 for \$100**. Our Lodge is also donating a basket for the raffle. If you would like to help, there is a list of items in the newsletter that you can donate.

Don't forget your **Dues payments are due by the March meeting**. All members were mailed a dues notice either by email and US Mail. If you did not receive one, there is a copy in the newsletter, or you can ask Sueann or I and we will get you one.

Hope to see some of you on February 9<sup>th</sup> at our new location, **North Haven Congregational Church**. If there are any cancelations, it will be done by email, so in the event of bad weather please keep an eye on your email. You can contact me at any time if you have any questions.

Susan

# Our Lodge Scholarship Program

## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INFORMATION

The North Haven Sons and Daughters of Italy Lodge 2805 is proud to offer lodge members Scholarships to our graduating high school seniors, from any Connecticut public or private High School, whose parents, guardians, or grandparents are lodge members. The scholarship(s) are intended to provide financial assistance to a graduating senior planning to further his / her education beyond high school either at an accredited university or college, or at a technical school. Two possible scholarships are available;

### **Neil A. Velleca Sr Scholarship & General Lodge Scholarship**

The scholarships are awarded based upon a point system that recognizes lodge participation, and involvement within the community, the high school, and place of worship. Points will also be given for a demonstrated effort to either promote or learn about the Italian culture and heritage. Applicant must be a Connecticut resident. A High School transcript and a letter of recommendation will be required. The number of scholarships awarded, and their amounts will be at the sole discretion of the Lodge.

**All applications must be postmarked or received on or before the deadline of Monday, April 27, 2026**

### **How to Apply**

**Members Only who have a Child or Grandchild that is a graduating high school senior. Come to the February, March or April Lodge meetings and request a Scholarship application from Lenny.**

**Or send an email requesting the application to Lenny at [Lric56@yahoo.com](mailto:Lric56@yahoo.com)**



Join your friends, and Lodge family to start the New Year right with lunch at Brazis.

Will be held on Sunday, February 8 at noon.

The price will be \$35 per person which includes, vegetable of the day, pasta, Dessert and your choice

of one of the following entrees:

Chicken Parmesan – Eggplant Parmesan

Shrimp Francese - Beef Tenderloin

THIS IS NOT A FUNDRAISER. THE COST IS JUST TO COVER YOUR MEAL.

.Any Questions ask Anna Simione at 203-710-5004

# North Haven Sons and Daughters of Italy Lodge 2805



## 2026 Membership Dues Bill

Make Checks Payable to:

North Haven Sons and Daughters of Italy Lodge 2805

Due Date before or on March 6, 2026

To Renew Dues is \$45.00 per person

Student, or Senior Dues (age 80 and over) are \$25.00

Please Return this form with your Full Payment

If you have any Questions or concerns please contact SueAnn Mentone-203-710-4186

Sue 203-239-2999

**Please provide your Phone number and email address:**

This information will help us keep our Lodge records up to date.

Please check the box on right if you do not want to share your contact info:

Add Note: \_\_\_\_\_

use back side for additional notes

	Amount Due
Name:	
Phone:	email:
Name:	
Phone:	email:
Name:	
Phone:	email:
Name:	
Phone:	email:
<b>Total Due</b>	

**Please Mail payment to:**

**North Haven Sons and Daughters of Italy Lodge 2805**

**Attn: SueAnn Mentone**

**P.O. Box 193, North Haven, CT 06473**

You may also bring payment to the January, February or March Meetings.

*Please pay before March 6, 2026 we don't want to lose you as a member.*

A \$15.00 late fee may be charged to anyone who pays dues after March 6, 2026

# 2026 Tentative Social Calendar

## Updates Monthly

### How You Can Help!

Activities meetings are held every couple months. They are usually held on Monday. All are invited to attend to either join one of our committees or if you have new ideas for an additional activity during the 2026 you are more than welcome to express it.

Questions, call Frank at 203-410-5254

	Date to Be Announced	
Saturday	3/21/2026	Valentine Supper Porchetta Corned Beef & Cabbage Membership Drive
Friday	4/10/26	Movie Night
Wednesday	5/20/26	Distinguished Citizen
Saturday	5/23/26	Memorial day Parade
Friday	6/19/2026	Bocce Starts
Saturday	6/20/26	Music & Game Night
Saturday	8/8/26	Car Show
Saturday	8/15/26	Car Show (rain Date)
Friday	9/11/2026	Military Whist
Sunday	9/20/26	Golf Outing
Sunday	10/4/26	Fashion Show
October	HERITAGE MONTH	dates to be determined
Saturday	10/24/2026	Murder Mystery
Sunday	11/8/26	State Dinner
Sunday	12/6/26	Christmas party

There has been some interest in bus trips this year.

1) Quincy Market / Italian North End

April 11, 2026 Bus Only- Bus- 35 passengers-\$75. Bus- 49 passengers- \$55.  
Lunch and shopping on your own

2) Magnanini Winery

October 4, 2026 Bus + 5 course Harvest Dinner, Show and Wine tasting for  
35 Passengers- \$155 49 Passengers - \$140.

Dates need to be voted on at February Meeting.

Prices are only approximate depending on number of people in our group.

We will require non refundable deposits for each trip to secure the busses and reservations at the Winery.

More information to follow at February meeting.

Please join us for a great time!

SueAnn Mentone 203-710-4186

## **Would you like to share something with your Lodge in a 10-to-20-minute presentation after a lodge meeting**

### **Overview**

At our monthly meetings we would like to line up some speakers from time to time. The speaker can be a member or an outside individual. Below is a summary of some of the topics. Al and Michelle Clemente have volunteered to chair this committee. If you would like to join this committee, would like to be a speaker or know someone who would like to speak please contact Al or Michelle Clemente at [albertrclemente@gmail.com](mailto:albertrclemente@gmail.com) or see them at the Lodge meeting.

- A past Lodge Event
- Health related matters.
- An historical event.
- Growing up in North Haven or another surrounding community.
- A science related matter
- A noteworthy person or group that preserves Italian American traditions, & culture.
- A noted composer, musician or singer
- A person of prominence that contributed to our country or their religious faith.
- A unique engineering or structural design

## Community Outreach report for newsletter – 1/24/2026

**New Committee Members** – I would like to welcome two new committee members! Diane Barone and Michelle Clemente have joined, and already participated in our events. If anyone else would like join, please contact any member listed below!

### **Food Drive for North Haven Community**

After the Holidays, food pantries are pretty empty, but the need doesn't end. Our committee is asking our members to please help us help. We will be collecting non-perishable food at the February meeting. This food will be delivered to the North Haven Community Center. Thank you in advance.

### **Red Cross Blood Drive**

We hosted another Blood Drive, on Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 12- 5 p.m. at Hope Christian Church. We had 29 appointments scheduled, which netted to 19 pints of blood donated. Thanks to Michelle Clemente, Lucille DeGregorio, Georgianna Hull, Dan Krause and Charlene Logan for volunteering and helping make it a successful event. The Red Cross staff confirmed that they are in dire need for blood right now, so if you or someone you know is able to give, please find a blood drive in the area and donate! See photo!

### **Dinner for Ronald McDonald House**

Once again, we made dinner at the Ronald McDonald House on January 20th. We provided them with chicken soup with either pasta or rice, rolls and dessert. The staff and residents were quite appreciative! (see photos) Thanks to Diane Barone, Donna Cassiello, Georgianna Hull, Charlene Logan, and Regina Najarian for lending your time and culinary skills!

**Reminder** – our ongoing used sneaker collection is still happening! Please bring any used, bagged sneakers that you no longer need to our monthly meetings. Judy Feather will continue to ship them to Got Sneakers for recycling. The Lodge earns a few dollars for this, but more importantly it is a great way to keep these items out of the landfills!

Again, thanks to everyone in the Lodge for your ongoing support! We will be meeting in February to plan our spring events; please contact us with any ideas for future activities or if you would like to join our committee!

Denise Mazzotta Krause (203-710-7397)

Diane Barone

Donna Cassiello

Michelle Clemente

Lucille DeGregorio

Georgianna Hull

Charlene Logan

Regina Najarian

Lodge member Dan and Georgiana were side-by-side donor buddies!



Once again, we made dinner at the Ronald McDonald House on January 20th.



### **imember Information**

Everyone should have received a link to access our imember program, and it looks like most of you have at least opened the email. If you did not get it, go to the following address, [www.imembersdb.com](http://www.imembersdb.com) Once there follow the directions below.

1. Press the Forgot/Reset Password.
2. A window will open, type in your login name (email address) and press reset password.
3. A new window will open from imember. If you don't see it, check your junk mail, that's where mine went. This page will direct you on how to reset your password.
4. Enter your new password and follow the instructions to allow you to access the program.

Once you sign on, click the My Lodge tab and look around, we are trying to upload relevant information for your reference. For example, if you go into Lodge Files there is a public and secure tab. The public tab has information that anyone can access. The Secure tab holds information just for members, such as. Our By-Laws, Original Charter Application, as well as other business documents.

We are all learning this system together so it will take some time to fully upload all information so keep checking back. If you have any questions, you can contact Neil at [navelleca@hotmail.com](mailto:navelleca@hotmail.com).