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## *A Message From the President, Antonio Meucci Lodge #213*



*June 2025  
Issue 4*

The days are just flying by as we enter the month of June. I can't believe it's already been 4 months since I was installed as President of the Lodge. It seems like it was only yesterday. I'm happy to report on some past events as well as to inform you of some upcoming activities and news as it pertains to the Lodge. So mark your calendar and try to join us. We would love to see you. I have to say it was so nice to see Past President Rose Tassone and Brother Joe at our last meeting. Hopefully, we will see you at more events when not in Florida.

The Cornhole Tournament is now over. I would like to congratulate all the players who played in the tournament, The First place winners was team Ferrari- Brother Giuseppe Rosamília, his sons Brothers Maurizo, Massimo, and Roberto along with Brothers Danny Miele, and Gerry Padula, Second place winners were Ebony & Ivories -Sister Margret Bernabei, Brother Joel Sonny and Glen Kreiger, and the Third place winners were The Old NY Jets- Brothers John Rubillo and Danny Cassanelli. Special thank you to the Chairpersons Sister Margaret Bernabei, Brothers Maurizo Rosamília, Joel Sonny, and John Rubillo for coordinating the schedules. I would also like to thank the members running the concession stand Sisters Heidi Banzinger, Margery Schiff, and Brother Mike Chillemi.

Bocce has now begun with 13 Teams comprised of both men and women. The competitiveness is unbelievable and the games are enjoyable to watch. Games are usually



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played Monday thru Thursday weather permitting. I invite you to come watch and support the teams playing. A special thank you to Brother Giuseppe Rosamilia for getting the Bocce court ready to play. We really appreciated it.

On Thursday May 15th, The Antonio Meucci Lodge presented a \$1,000.00 Scholarship to Abigail Dorchak a worthy student at White Plains High School. Abigail received the Vito Cirioni Memorial / Antonio Meucci Lodge Scholarship. The Scholarship she received was in recognition for her pursuit of perfection in the study of the Italian language. I would like to thank Chairperson Sister Rita Maria Carolini, and Sister Rosemary Cirioni for attending the ceremony with me. It was a very beautiful and special night for us to present this award to Abigail.

The following night on May 16th was Pocketbook Bingo. As previously mentioned this is probably one of our biggest fundraiser we have at the Lodge. If you never been to a Pocketbook Bingo you are really missing out on a fun night. Besides the ladies in attendance there was some men that even joined us to play Bingo this time. We had lots of raffles to bid on like a \$500 money tree, \$500 in restaurant certificates, plus a big payout on the 50/50 and amazing gift items donated by local merchants in the area. A special shout out to IPP Mario Cermele, and Brother Dominick D'Ambrosio who called the Bingo numbers. They were too funny. I would like to personally thank Chairperson Sister Cathy Grisanti, Reservation Chairperson Pamela Danza and their amazing committee for making this all happen for the Lodge. Can't wait until November for the next Pocketbook Bingo event.



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On May 23rd, four of our members went to the Medal of Honor Post 112 dinner which supports Veterans and Medal of Honor recipients in the town of Mt. Pleasant. Brother Joe Tanzi is a Purple Heart recipient and the Lodge has always been a proud supporter of our military and service personnel. Thank you to Sister Antonella Capicotto-Delia, Brother Eduardo Delia. Sister Heidi Banziger and Brother Adam Pacceca for attending

On May 27th at our General Meeting we installed 6 new members who were excited to join our Lodge. To our new Brothers and Sisters Damiana & Dominick DiMiceli, Dora Griffo, Rosemary Reo, Dale Ferraro Wilker, and Stephen Sorano we welcome you to the Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America, but more importantly to the Antonio Meucci Lodge one of the oldest Lodges in the State.

Along with the initiation of new members we also presented 13 Scholarships to worthy students of our Lodge members children totally \$19,500. The recipients were Olivia D'Ambrosio, Alex DelPozzo, Alexa DiSalvo, Sofia Engongoro, Marco Griffo, Isabella Malandro, Jessica Olenchak, Olivia Pennella, Jack Paolo Srihari, Giada Stumpo, Sienna Tassone, Daniela Tornatore and Giulia Zingone. I'm so proud that our Lodge is in a position to award these worthy students with Scholarships, and to recognize their academic achievements. A special thank you to Chairperson Sister Rita Maria Carolini and her committee Sisters Anna Maria Forte, Jean Illardi, Pamela Danza, Rosalia Miceli, Cathy Grisanti, Lucy Tocci and Brother Joe Tanzi for your



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due diligence in reviewing the applications and doing all the interviews. These students are our future, and our legacy to promoting our Italian Heritage. I also would like to thank Julia DelPozzo & Jessica Santoli past recipient winners for coming to the Lodge to speak to this year winners. What a beautiful inspirational message you delivered to them.

Another successful event was Movie Night. On May 29th we watched the movie *Cabrini*, the story of Mother Frances Cabrini. It's was free of charge and people came with their comfortable chairs to view the movie on our new 85 inch TV. If you never saw the movie I encourage you to watch it. It was a very emotional and spiritual movie that detailed the story of Mother Cabrini on how she served the poor and homeless immigrants of New York City, and built a network of charitable organizations, that is still in existence today. A Special thank you to Chairpersons Sister Lucy & Brother Ray Tocci, IPP Mario Cermele and Brother Nando Alpuche for showcasing the movie for us. Hopefully, we can have more movie nights in the near future. And if you are looking for a feel good movie to watch I encourage you to watch the movie *Nonnas*, now playing on Netflix. It's a true story of *Enoteca Maria*, a restaurant in Staten Island, employing grandmothers (Nonnas) from Italy to cook their traditional Italian dishes. It's really cute, and enjoyable to watch.

On June 12th, the Antonio Meucci Lodge will host the District IV Scholarship award presentation. I'm so proud that 2 of our members children will receive State Scholarships. Isabella Malanndro will receive the Capicotto Family Scholarship and Alexandra Mia Ferrari will receive the Christopher Columbus / Joe DiMaggio Lodge



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Scholarship. Also that night the State will present one of our members Sister Maria Theresa Quaranta with a certificate of achievement for her literary work on a children's book she wrote *Andiamo a fare shopping con Mariiii: Lets Go shopping with Mariiii*. Congratulations to all of you.

The next night on June 13th the Lodge will have a Steak Night. The cost is \$65.00 per person. You can review our website for the flyer and all the particulars. If interested you can call Brother Richie Strobel 914 672-6070 or IPP Mario Cermele 914 325-1239 for reservations.

Another one of our major fundraising events for the year will be in July where we will celebrate our Italian Heritage at the Kenisco Dam. The date of the Festa is July 20th. This year our honoree will be Nick Prisco from Prisco Appliances. The Lodge is looking for any support possible with sponsorships, donations, vendors etc. You can see our website for more information. Also our members will be receiving raffle tickets in the mail. Your support would greatly be appreciated as we raise money to support all our charitable donations through out the year. Volunteers are also needed for that day. If interested in volunteering you can call Sister Caroline Baviello 914 760-4095. Our next Festa meeting is June 23rd at 7:30 so please feel free to join us.

Another event to save the date will be our annual picnic on August 31, 2025 at Ridge Road Park, Hartsdale. Brothers Charles Tota, Anthony Miceli, and Nick Vaccarelli will Chair the event. More information to follow.



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*I personally would like to thank our "Gardeners", who did an amazing job putting the top soil down, and planting the flowers in front of the building. Everything looks beautiful. To IPP Mario Cermele, Past President Tony Amato for buying the flowers, and to the planters of the flowers Brothers Frank Autera, Dominick D'Ambrosio, Nick Fragnito and Tony Santoli. Thank you so much*

*As a fraternal organization you know our Lodge is always willing to help others in need. We have contributed thousand of dollars over the years to worthy charities like the Italian Welfare League, CSJ (Commission For Social Justice), Cooley's Anemia, Gift of Sight just to name a few. Well recently, one of our members reached out to the Lodge to see if we can offer assistance with a sick child suffering with Leukemia, I am happy to report that the Italian Welfare League reached out to me and advised that they were going to pay 3 months of the family insurance premiums. A special thank you to Sister Joan Prezioso for facilitating this donation to assist the family in need, and to all the members who did donate to the Go Fund Me, thank you from the bottom of my heart.*

*In closing, I would like to send sympathy condolences to Rosa Ortiz, and cousins Sisters Lynda & Lillian Innocenzi families on the passing of our dear departed member Sister Mary Morra. Sister Mary was a long time member of the Lodge and she will sorely be missed. Many years ago, Sister Mary was recognized by the Lodge and received both the B. Albert Roselli Citizen and the Family of the Year Awards.*



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Also let's not forget the month of June is Graduation time. To all our High School and College Graduates I extend my best wishes as you embark on new adventures in your lives. And to Pope Leo XIV the first Pope from the Americas. congratulations on your appointment to Pope.

Brothers and Sisters may you always remember our motto *Liberty, Equality and Fraternity*.

Sempre Avanti  
President Camille,