



AVANTI

ANTONIO MEUCCI LODGE N° 213 • OSDIA • WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

9/10 Officer's Meeting 7:30pm

9/20 Liberty Cruise 7:00pm

Chair Anthony Miceli (914) 879-6884

OCTOBER

10/8 Officer's Meeting 7:30pm

10/12 Wreath Ceremony 10:00AM

RSVP Pamela Danza (914) 980-1055

10/13 NYC Columbus Day Parade

10/25 NYS Plenary Meeting

10/26 Boo Bash Kids Halloween 12:00pm

Chair: Chris Famularo (347) 203-5991

10/28 General Meeting 7:30pm

NOVEMBER

11/2 Memorial Mass

11/12 Officer's Meeting

11/14 Pocketbook Bingo

RSVP Pamela Danza (914) 980-1055

11/25 General Meeting 7:30pm

DECEMBER

12/7 Children's Christmas Party



Antonio Meucci
Lodge 213
ORDER
Sons and Daughters of Italy
IN AMERICA



FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

To My Brothers and Sisters,

Welcome to the Fall/Winter addition of the Avanti. As you can probably see the Avanti has a new look and feel than the previous ones published. The reason for that is because the Avanti is now being designed in-house by Brothers Nando Alpuche and Joe Griffo along with the help of Sister Margherita Capicotto. Thank you so much for stepping up to help with this undertaking.

These past few months the Lodge was so busy with events that were very successful such as our first Steak Night and of course the Italian Heritage Festival at the Kenisco Dam which was unbelievable. We also had our annual picnic. That was another fantastic day where the weather was absolutely perfect. Special thank you to Chairpeople Brothers Anthony Miceli, Nick Vaccarelli, and Charles Tota, and of course IPP Mario Cermele with all the food preparation. However, the highlight of the day was we had our newly elected NYS President Arthur Spera, and NYS Past President Anthony Naccarato and their wives in attendance. Just fabulous.

Over the next few months the Lodge has some great events planned that may interest you and your family. We will have the Bocce championship games, and on September 20th we have a boat ride planned aboard the "The Princess" which leaves from New Rochelle and cruise down the Hudson River. I would like to thank the Social Committee for planning this exciting event. We also will have a children's Halloween "Boo-Bash" on October 26th. Please see our website for more information and the flyers.

October is always a busy time for us at the Lodge, and this year is no different. October is traditionally when we celebrate Italian Heritage month and I encourage everyone to come to the Columbus Wreath Statue celebration at Tibbits Park in White Plains, followed by a continental breakfast at the Lodge. I ask you to join us as we celebrate just how proud we are to be Italian. Hope to see you there.

On November 2, we will have our memorial mass in Italian/English that honors our deceased members of the Lodge at Mt. Carmel Church, and let's not forget that we will have another Pocketbook Bingo scheduled for November 14th which is always a sold out event. So mark your calendars.

As previously mentioned the Avanti will only be printed quarterly and mailed to those people who do not have an email address, however I do write a monthly Newsletter to keep you abreast on what is going on in the Lodge. If you want to receive the Newsletter please send an email to antoniomeuccilodge213@gmail.com, and we will be happy to add you to the list.

In closing, I will like to wish everyone a very Happy Halloween, Happy Thanksgiving and of course a very Merry Christmas, Buon Natale, and may you always enjoy these quality times with your family and friends. Hope to see you at some of our events before the new year. Enjoy this edition of the Avanti.

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

Sempre Avanti,
President Camille



THE AVANTI is the official newsletter of the Antonio Meucci Lodge N° 213 and is published quarterly. Please submit all items for publication by the next day after The General Meeting preceding the month of publication. Contact Margherita Capicotto for all new submissions at fivecaps@optonline.net



**Antonio Meucci
Lodge 213**
ORDER
Sons and Daughters of Italy
IN AMERICA

**Antonio Meucci Place
279 Maple Avenue
White Plains, NY 10606
(914) 761-9073**

www.antoniomeuccilodge.com

OFFICERS 2025

President: Camille Tarone

Vice President: Anthony Miceli,

Second Vice President: Cathy Grisanti

Immediate Past President: Mario Cermele

Orator: Nando Alpuche

Financial Secretary: Joe Griffo

Treasurer: Lina Amello

Recording Secretary: Caroline Baviello

Corresponding Secretary: Rosalia Miceli

Principal Trustee: Gino DiMiceli

Trustees:

Tina Amato, Rita Carolini, Maria DiMiceli,
Christopher Famularo, Lucy Tocci, Dina Roselli,
Charles Guastella, Maria Malandro, Antonella
Capicotto DeLia, Nick Vaccarelli

Ceremonial Officers:

Heidi Banzinger, Roselle Cucuzza

Sentinels:

Adam Pacecca, Lynda Innocenzi

Arbitration Committee:

Dominick D'Ambrosio, Richard Strobel, John
Rubillo, Anna Maria Forte, Tina Salerno

Past Presidents

Antonio Amato, Antonio Capicotto, Mario
Cermele, Teresa Rivero, Frank Tarone,
Rose Tassone, Charles Tota

Chaplain:

Joe Tanzi

District Lodge Deputy:

Margaret Forte

LAMOSIA:

Pamela Danza (Treasurer)
Antonio Amato (Past President)
Rose Tassone ((Past President)
Teresa Rivero (Past President)
Charles Tota (Past President)
Mario Cermele (Past President)

Antonio Meucci Lodge#213 Inc Directors:

Umberto Amato, Michael DiSavino,
Raymond Tocci

Congratulations

To Sister Vincezia

Puja on the marriage
of her granddaughter
Cristina Birittieri to her
husband Andrew.

To Brother Adam

Pacecca for
attending the **2025
FOTO Convention** in
Orlando Florida. **FOTO**
which stands for the
Future of The Order
provides a platform
for young adults ages
21-40 to discuss and
share the future of the
organization and
Italian Identity. Thanks
for representing our
Lodge

Congratulations to
first time

grandparents. **To**

**Brother Frank
Zappa** on the birth of
his grandson Santino,
and to **Brother Joe &
Sister Roseann
Racioppo** on the
birth of their grandson
Alfonso 'Alfie'
Tortorici.

To Brother Luigi &

Sister Jean Illardi
on the upcoming
marriage of their son
Joseph to Taylor

To Sister Maria

Theresa Quaranta
who was inducted as
a member into the
NYSOSDIA
Celebrated Authors
Society

To Sister Lisa

LaRocca, who was
recognized by County
Executive Ken Jenkins
with a special
proclamation
proclaiming **Lisa
LaRocca Day in
Westchester
County**. Sister Lisa
was awarded this
distinct honor for all
the years she has
worked with the Sharp
Again Organization.
This is an organization
that focuses on taking
healthy measures to
prevent and even
reverse the effects of
dementia.

Milestone Anniversary & Birthday Wishes

Brother John & Filomena Rubillo. 50 Years

Brother Sal & Nancy Garo- 50 Years

Brother Sam & Sister Lina Amello 25 Years

Brother Umberto Amato on his upcoming
90th Birthday in October.

**If you would like to publish milestones
about your family i.e. weddings, births,
anniversaries etc. please contact Sr.
Margherita Capicotto at 914-980-7987
and your information will be added to
next AVANTI.**

OFFICER's MEETINGS

2nd Weds of Every Month @ 7:30pm

Feb 12, Mar 12, Apr 9, Mat 14, Jun 11, Jul
9, Aug 13, Sep 10, Oct 8, Nov 12, Dec 10

Get Well Wishes

To All our Brothers and Sisters, and Extended Family

Tony Amato, Umberto
Amato, Dora Griffo,
Annamaria Forte,
Margaret Forte, Nina
Maria Chillemi, Ralph
D'Andrea, Josephine
DeMaria, Nick

Fragnito, Michael
Grisanti, Anthony
Lembo, Antonio Mule,
Vicky & Vicenza Puja,
Teresa Rivero, John
Roselli, Joseph
Sciame, Patsy
Sposato, Lillian and
Joe Tanzi, Charles
Tota, and Pete Viviano.
Wishing everyone not
feeling well get well
wishes.

Deepest Sympathy

To The Riguzzi

Family on the
passing of **Sister
Mary Riguzzi** a long
time member of the
Lodge. May she rest
in the arms of the
Lord as she will sorely
be missed.

To Brother Mike

Clarizio on the
passing of his sister
Cesarea Regina

**To Sister Suzanne
Tarulli** on the passing
of her mother Agatina
Maria Lucia

**To Sister Mara
Persampieri** on the
passing of her father
Angelo Cerilli

**To The Lembo
Family** of the passing
of **Sister Genevieve
Lembo** a long time
friend of the Antonio
Meucci Lodge and a
Past President and
Founder of **Le
Amiche Lodge**

**To The
Montemarano
Family** of the passing
of **NYS Past First
Lady Rosemarie
Montemarano** and
wife of **NYS Past
President Joe
Montemarano**



If you have moved, changed email or
phone please notify us with your new
contact information so we can keep our
records up to date. Contact Camille
Tarone
at 914-772-1768 or
email: tarone96@aol.com

GENERAL MEETINGS

4th Tues of Every Month @ 7:30pm

Feb 25, Mar 25, Apr 22, May 27, Jun 24, Jul
22, Aug 26, Sep 23, Oct 28, Nov 25

LODGE NEWS



HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Wishing everyone a very Happy Halloween. Halloween is an ancient time-honored tradition which celebrated the end of the harvest and the beginning of winter. Later on, as Christianity spread, it became known as All Hallows' Day, the day before All Saints Day. Then that tradition became a more modern holiday featuring costumes, trick-or-treat-ing, and celebrations of both the living and the dead. However you enjoy the day, we wish everyone a safe and happy Halloween.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING EVERYONE



The true meaning of Thanksgiving is centered on expressing gratitude for life's blessings, gatherings with family and friends and giving back to the community. We wish everyone a day filled with Love, Joy, Laughter, and of course, delicious food.

REMEMBERING THE FALLEN ON 9/11

This year on 9-11, marks 24 years on the horrific attacks on the American people in US history when United Airlines flight struck the North Tower of the World Trade Center, then minutes later another plane struck the South Tower. Many innocent lives were lost that day and some of those lives lost hit very close to home as we lost

Joseph Rivero son to our Past President Teresa Rivero and Brother Domenico Rivero. We also lost **Michael McHugh** nephew to IPP Mario Cermele, and so many others that had deep ties to our OSDIA family. May they rest in peace and know they are dearly missed and remain in our hearts for eternity.



REMEMBER & HONOR
9/11

Military Appreciation

The month of November we celebrate Veteran's Day. Veteran's Day honors all those who have served in the military, in a time of war or peace. We would like to thank you for your service and acknowledge your ultimate sacrifice.



Babbo Natale: Italy's Beloved Father Christmas

In Italy, the holiday season carries its own unique traditions, and at the heart of it stands Babbo Natale—the Italian name for Santa Claus. Translating to "Father Christmas" or "Daddy Christmas," Babbo Natale is the cheerful, red-suited figure who embodies the **Spirito di Natale** (Christmas Spirit), bringing joy and gifts to children across the country.

Origins and Evolution
The story of Babbo Natale finds its earliest roots in Saint Nicholas, a 4th-century bishop celebrated for his kindness and secret acts of generosity, especially toward the poor. Over centuries, this legacy of giving transformed and merged with other cultural traditions.

The modern image—jolly, plump, and dressed in a bright red suit with a white beard—was popularized in the 19th century through poems and illustrations. Italy fully embraced this version in the mid-20th century, and from then on, Babbo Natale became

a central figure of the Italian Christmas celebration.

Traditions and Symbolism

Much like Santa Claus in other parts of the world, Babbo Natale represents warmth, generosity, and the spirit of giving. On Christmas Eve, he travels through snowy skies to deliver presents to eagerly awaiting children, filling homes with excitement and wonder.

Yet, Italy's rich cultural tapestry means that Babbo Natale is not alone in bringing gifts. In many regions, other beloved figures take the spotlight:

La Befana — An old woman who rides a broomstick, delivering sweets or coal on January 6th, especially cherished in central and southern Italy.

Saint Lucy (Santa Lucia) — Celebrated in parts of northern Italy, she brings gifts on December 13th.

A Symbol That Unites.

Whether it's Babbo Natale, La Befana, or Saint Lucy, the message remains the same: Christmas in Italy is about generosity, family, and joy. Together, these traditions weave a festive story that continues to light up Italian homes each holiday season.



Merry Christmas
and
HAPPY NEW YEAR



LINK UP

Check us out on our social media pages to stay up to date on current events at
The Antonio Meucci Lodge#213

Facebook:

Antonio Meucci Lodge 213
White Plains

Instagram:

@Antonio.Meucci.Lodge

Website:

www.antonioeuccilodge.com