



Summer 2024

AVANTI

Antonio Meucci Lodge #213, OSDIA • White Plains, NY

UPCOMING Events

August

- 8/14 Officer's Meeting, 7:30pm
- 8/22 Italian Music in White Plains
- 8/25 Annual Picnic Ridge Road Park
- 8/27 General Meeting, 7:30pm

September

- 9/11 Officer's Meeting, 7:30pm
- 9/13 Jazz Music in White Plains
- 9/22 Resorts in the Catskills
- 9/24 General Meeting, 7:30pm

October

- 10/9 Officer's Meeting, 7:30pm
- 10/13 Columbus Wreath Ceremony
- 10/14 NYC Columbus Day Parade
- 10/22 General Meeting, 7:30pm
- 10/25 Halloween Party, 7:00pm

November

- 11/3 Memorial Mass, 10:30am OLMC
- 11/13 Officer's Meeting, 7:30pm
- 11/15 Pocketbook Bingo
- 11/26 General Meeting, 7:30pm

December

- 12/8 Children's Christmas Party
- 12/11 Officer's Meeting, 7:30pm

A Message from your President: Mario Cermele



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this message finds you well, and that you are dealing with what Mother Nature is dishing out as best as we all can.

Our Lodge has continued to grow so much it has become an extremely busy place, from fundraising activities, the festival, the bocce tournament, cornhole tournament, pocketbook bingo, comedy night, the Italian night Yankee game, the upcoming annual picnic, Italian card game nights, new membership initiations, scholarship ceremony, etc. Check out our website <https://antoniomeuccilodge.com> for more upcoming events and save the dates.

We would love to see more members at our meetings to bring ideas. We always welcome new ideas.

To all of you who helped at the Kenisco Dam Italian Heritage Festival, thank you so much for all your help to make it such a success. We also thank the committee for our new Antonio Meucci tents that were in use at our membership tent.

Keep up the great work, enjoy this summer issue of the AVANTI, and let's gather and get ready for our Columbus Day celebrations. We would like full participation to celebrate our heritage.

Sempre Avanti!

Un Abbraccio Forte

Fraternally,
President Mario and Sister Pamela Danza





Antonio Meucci Lodge #213

279 Maple Avenue
at Antonio Meucci Place
White Plains, New York 10606
(914) 761-9073
www.antonioimeuccilodge.com

OFFICERS 2024

Executive Board

Mario Cermele, President
Camille Tarone, 1st Vice President
Rita Cestone, 2nd Vice President
Antonio Amato, Immediate Past President
Cathy Grisanti, Orator
Caroline Baviello, Recording Secretary
Rosalia Miceli, Corresponding Secretary
Annmaria Forte, Financial Secretary
Lina Amello, Treasurer
Dominick D'Ambrosio, Principal Trustee

Trustees

Nando Alpuche • Tina Amato
Rita Carolini • Antonella Capicotto DeLia
Anthony Miceli • Gino Di Miceli • John Rubillo
Richard Strobel • Lucy Tocci • Nick Vaccarelli

Ceremonial Officers

Heidi Banziger • Tony Cestone

Sentinels

Adam Paccoca • Dina Roselli

Arbitration Committee

Maria DiMiceli • Joe Griffo (Pres.) • Charles Guastella
Carlo Riccobono • Tina Salerno

Past Presidents

Antonio Amato • Antonio Capicotto • Teresa Rivero
Frank Tarone • Rose Tassone • Charles Tota

Chaplain

Joe Tanzi

District Lodge Deputy

Margaret Forte

LAMOSIA

Pamela Danza (Treasurer) • Antonio Amato
Rose Tassone • Teresa Rivero • Charles Tota

Antonio Meucci Lodge #213 Inc. Directors

Umberto Amato • Michael Di Savino • Raymond Tocci

The Avanti is the official newsletter of the Antonio Meucci Lodge #213 and it 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.

Let's Party! The Lodge is available for your NEXT EVENT!

Members fee for rental \$500 + \$150 clean up fee + Insurance. Pricing Effective 2024

Contact Brother Mario at 325-1239 for available dates & times



Casino Bus Trip

The Antonio Meucci Lodge in conjunction with the Giuseppe Garibaldi Lodge will be doing a bus trip to Resorts World Casino Catskill on Sunday September 22, 2024.

The cost is \$55.00 per person, however, your net cost is \$15, after you receive \$25 free Slot Play, and \$15.00 Food Comp.

All reservations need to be made by August 17, 2024, and reservations need to be done online. Please contact Mario Cermele if interested.

Includes: Transportation to/from casino, Lite bite breakfast, Chips/water for return trip

Gathering Point: Cermele Café - 440 Mamaroneck Av, Harrison, NY 10528

Agenda: Bus Departs at 8:00 AM promptly - Don't be late!

Join us for Breakfast 7:20 - 8:00 AM

Arrival at Resorts World at approximately 10:00 AM

Depart Resorts World at 5:00 PM

Return at approximately 7:00 PM

RSVP: By August 17th - we will not take reservations after this date.

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

OFFICERS' MEETINGS

2nd Wed. of every month @ 7:30pm

August 14 • Sept. 11

Oct. 9 • Nov. 13 • Dec. 11

GENERAL MEETINGS

4th Tuesday of every month @ 7:30pm

August 27 • Sept. 24

Oct. 22 • Nov. 26

Members are NOT required to RSVP for general meetings.

Deepest Sympathy

To **Brother Mike Fiorentino**
on the passing of his brother Ralph

To **Sister Lucille Capossela and Brother Dennis**
on the passing of her father Louis Tricomi

To **Brother Gerry and Sister Ashley DiMatteo** on the
passing of Gerrys grandmother Giovanna Giordano

To **Brother Honorable Judge Pat Gizzo**
on the passing of his mother Carmela Gizzo

To **Sister Emelia Sclafani** on the passing of
her husband **Brother Carlo Scalfani**

To **Sister Victoria Puja** on the passing of
her family member Cathy Tusiani

To **Sister Clara and Brother Patsy Sposato** on the
passing of family member Cathy Tusiani

To **Laura Petitti, Joel, Elizabeth and Steve Argiro**
on the passing of their grandson Lucas Anthony

To **Sister Michelle Varnit** on the passing of her
husband Anthony Joseph Varnit, he was also the
Brother in Law to **Sister Charmaine Thomas**.

To **Sister Caroline Baviello** on the passing
of her Brother in law Mike Baviello
the brother of her husband Joe Baviello

To **Brother Nick Santoro** on the passing
of his sister Maria Mariani

To **Brother Gene Miceli** on the passing of his
brother Mario Miceli, who was also the Uncle to
Brother Anthony and Sister Rosalia Miceli

To **Sister Mary Morra** on the passing of
her great nephew Mark Anthony Giordano

To **Brother Nick Vaccarelli and Sister Benedetta
Vaccarelli** on the loss of Nick's Brother Frank Vaccarelli

Congratulations

To **Brother Luigi Ilardi and Sister Jean Borelli Ilardi**
on the engagement of their son Joseph to Taylor Volpe

**President Mario Cermele and
First Lady Pamela Danza** on the marriage
of their daughter Danielle to Matt Pugni

**President Mario Cermele
and First Lady Pamela Danza** on the marriage
of their daughter Nicole to Chris Mozingo

New Arrivals

Congratulations to **Brother Carlo Riccobono**
on the birth of his new grandson Joseph.
Parents Christina and Peter Muia and big sister Sophia

Congratulations to **Sister Rosemary Cirioni**
on the birth of her granddaughter

Congratulations to **President Mario Cermele
and First Lady Pamela Danza**
on the birth of their granddaughter Mattie Sue.
Parents Danielle and Matt Pugni

Congratulations to **Brother John Rubillo and Sister
Filomena** on the birth of their granddaughter Isabella

Get Well Wishes

To our brothers and sisters

**John Pezzullo, Danny Cassanelli, Margaret Forte,
Pamela Danza, Penny Pepe, Benedetta Corvino,
Vincenzo Roselli, Genieve Lembo, Sale Cassanelli,
Antionette Cinicolo, Sal Cappello, Charles Guastella**
Sending prayers and healing to all those not feeling well.

Summer Birthday Wishes

to all our members who are celebrating their milestones

New Members

**Christ Giordano, Toni Marie Amato, Louis Iannacchino,
Mike Iannacchino, Rocco Masucci,
Stephen Saccomanno, Vincent Azzone, Bill Clifford,
Maurizio Rosamilia, Jon Estay, Robert Frengo,
Angelo DiFeo, Nick Ciaramella, Pietro Devito, Joel Sonny,
Jr. Amorosa, Gennaro Padula and Daniel Suozzo**

Anniversaries

To **Brother Donald and Sister Joanne Menzie**
on celebrating their 50th Anniversary

To **Brother John Rubillo and Sister Filomena Rubillo**
on celebrating their 50th Anniversary

To **Brother Joe Amato and Sister Toni Marie Amato**
on celebrating their 25th Anniversary

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.

Italian Heritage Festival at the Kensico Dam



Italian Heritage Festival at the Kensico Dam



Spring/Summer Bocce

The Spring/Summer Bocce which consists of 14 teams comprised of both men and women is an amazing success. Special thanks goes to the event Chairpersons Brother Anthony Miceli and Sister Margaret Bernabei for coordinating the games. The final tournament will resume in September after an August break. So if you have nothing to do Monday thru Thursday night in September come down and cheer on your favorite team.



Scholarship Award Winners - Congratulations to all!



This year's recipients were **Antonella Cappello, Marissa Cestone and Angelo DiFonzio**. Marissa Cestone's scholarship was accepted by her grandparents, Tony and Rita Cestone on her behalf. Congratulations to all three recipients on their hard work and dedication. Thank you to Rita Carolini and the entire scholarship committee on a job well done.



We had a presentation of the Vito Cirioni Memorial & The Antonio Meucci Lodge #213 Scholarship . This was presented to White Plains High School student Jackson Bourgeois.

The NYS Order Sons and Daughter of Italy District 4 Scholarship Awards was presented to Antonella Capello, Angelo DiFonzo, Ava Rose LaCorte, and Marena Nicole Maule. Antonella Capello received the Father Donald B. Licata Memorial Award. Angelo DiFonzo received the Franca and Antonio Capicotto Family Scholarship . Both students parents are members of our lodge. Brother Sal and Sister Nadia Capello and Brother Bill and Sister Janine DiFonzo.



Marcello Capello was awarded the Milite Family Scholarship. He is the son of Brother Sal and Sister Nadia Capello.

Marco Buglione was awarded the NIAF/Fieri Voyage of Discovery Award. He is the son of Brother Frank and Rosita Buglione and grandson of Sister Grazia Riccardella.

Funny Bunny Easter Egg Hunt at White Plains High School

The City of White Plains Parks and Recreation Funny Bunny Easter Egg Hunt was sponsored by the Lodge.

Sister Camille Tarone, Sister Cathy Grisanti, Sister Lina Amello, President Mario Cermele, and Mayor Thomas Roach were in attendance.



Our Vetern Joseph Tanzi



Our Chapin Brother Joe Tanzi was selected to participate in a 'Veteran's Honor Flight'

Sponsored by the Hudson Valley Honor Flight, a non-profit organization, on May 18th he travelled to Washington DC with 65 other Veterans from various wars. They visited the top three veteran memorials: WWII, Korea, and Vietnam along with the Lincoln Memorial. They also travelled to Arlington National Cemetery to observe the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Honor Flights are an opportunity to honor and thank the American soldiers who secured our freedom by escorting them to our nation's capital to visit the memorials that commemorate their service. Next time to see Joe please thank him for his service to our country.

Fundraiser for Joseph Thompson

On July 23rd at our General Meeting, we presented young Joe Thompson a check for the amount of \$13,374.00 plus Gifts from all his favorite major Teams and so much more. Thank you to Brother Carlo Riccobono who chaired the event and brought it to the Body, job well done. We thanked each and every one of you for your support as did the Monticelli/Thompson Family. Some individuals do stand out, Br Mike Chillemi and Family, Br Sal Cappello and Family, the Bingoettes, Sr Dina and John Roselli. Sr Carolina Baviello, Br Tony Amato, Br. Sal Garro, Sister Camille and on and on. Our Lodge is a wonderful place to belong to, we care, we help, we deliver. Again to all who helped spread the word, the results speak for themselves. Please keep Joe in your thoughts and prayers as he fights this tough battle, which he will win. Always in our prayers, we are with you.

Fraternally

Pres Mario, First Lady Pamela and 342 member Families



Cornhole Championship

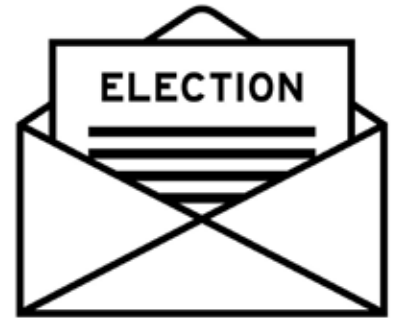


Congratulations to our winning team:

Jordan Clay
Joel Sonny
Mike Vallario
Glen Kreider

Election of Officers

The Lodge will be holding elections for a new slate of Officers for the incoming year of March 2025. The State protocol is that notification must be given to all members who wish to be an Officer 90 days notice in writing. Since we do not have a December meeting notifications need to be completed by November. The nominating committee will meet and interview candidates for office and shall present its report, including recommendations of candidates for office, at the regular meeting held in January preceding the election. In January 2025, the slate of Officers will be read, and if any candidate who wishes to run from the floor, an election will be done in February, with installation of the new Officers in March. Any nominee for a position must be a member in good standing of the Lodge. If anyone is interested in becoming an Officer please let Pamela Danza Chairperson of the nominating committee know of your intention. Pamela can be reached at 914 980-1055.



The City of White Plains Recreation & Parks Renaissance Plaza Concerts

(corner of Main St. & Mamaroneck Ave)

Thursday @ 7pm

**Aug 22 - Carozza Entertainment*
(Italian Music)**



Bring your own chair and join us at
Renaissance Plaza

*Sponsored by the Antonio Meucci Lodge #213-White Plains, NY



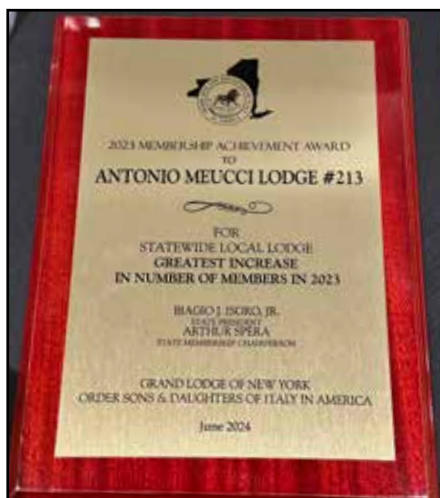
OSDIA NY Annual State Convention Report



On June 28, 2024 the Lodge attended the 116th State Convention at the Crowne Plaza Desmond Hotel in Albany, NY. The following delegates represented the Antonio Meucci Lodge #213 at the convention. Sister Lina Amello, Sister Caroline Baviello, Sister Rita Carolini, Sister Roselle Cucuzza, Sister Cathy Grisanti, Sister Pamela Danza, and myself Sister Camille Tarone.

As in the past, the convention is a good time to reconnect with old friends from various lodges around the State, and to connect with new ones, as we continue to embrace the embodiment of the principles of our Order Liberty, Equality and Fraternity.

This year the Antonio Meucci Lodge was recognized for the greatest increase in numbers for membership. The State President presented us with a check for \$250.00, as well as a plaque. Sister Caroline Baviello received a jacket for all her efforts in bringing more than 10 new members



into the Lodge in 2023. The Antonio Meucci Lodge was also recognized with the Literary Award, which was presented to our own Brother Mike DeLucia. All proud moments for our Lodge. Congratulations to Sister Caroline and Brother Mike.

This year at the convention, the various Lodges including our own lodge donated over \$86,000 to the various charities we support such as Cooleys Anemia, Cancer Research, Alzheimer's, Gift of Sight, Scholarships, and CSJ to name just a few. Many of these organizations gave presentations and showed various videos. It was nice to see that the monies they receive is making a difference especially in the advances with Cooleys Anemia.

Unfortunately, we had no winners for the \$100 raffle this year, but I would like to thank Brother Anthony Miceli for coordinating the efforts to sell 40 tickets on behalf of the Lodge.

There was a guest speaker NY State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli, who is a member of the Cellini Lodge in Long Island. He mentioned "unclaimed funds" where there is millions of dollars in unclaimed money that you may be entitled to.. He did research of all the Lodges in the State and found monies that he was able to reimburse to them. One Lodge got a check for \$6000. The website to check on unclaimed funds is **OSC.NY.GOV/OUF**. Check it out you many have money there and apply to get it returned to you.



Brother Mike Delucia was the winner of the 2024 Literary Award

So, with that being said it was a great convention, informative and emotional at times. Next year it will be back at the Desmond Hotel on the last weekend in June. Respectfully Submitted by, Camille Tarone, 1st Vice President

Events Calendar



*July 22 - Free Concert
at Renaissance Plaza
on Main Street White Plains
The Carozza Entertainment Group*

August 25 - Annual Picnic

*September 13 - Free Concert - 12:00-1:00pm
at White Plains Public Library Plaza
100 Martine Avenue, White Plains
Jazz at Noon Concert by Vanessa Racci.
She is the daughter of our members
Brother Joe and Sister Roseann Racioppo.*

Jazz at Noon Vanessa Racci Jazzy Italian

October 13 - Columbus Wreath Ceremony

October 14 - NYC Columbus Day Parade

October 25 - 7:00 pm Halloween Party

November 3 - Memorial Mass, OLMC

November 15 - Pocketbook Bingo

December 8 - Childrens Christmas Party

Check out our recent podcast about Dual Italian Citizenship

THE LION'S DEN @ 213
AN ITALIAN-AMERICAN PODCAST
HOSTED BY:
Adam Pacecca, Joe Griffo & Nando Alpuche
ANTONIO MEUCCI LODGE N° 213
FEATURING DISCUSSIONS ABOUT HERITAGE, MUSIC,
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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: <https://antoniomeuccilodge.com>



ANTONIO MEUCCI LODGE, N° 213
presents

**FOOD
GAMES
DRINKS**

ANNUAL PICNIC

SUNDAY AUGUST 25, 2024 | 12:00PM - 6:00PM
RIDGE ROAD PARK - FIELD 1
(HARTSDALE, NY)

RESERVE NOW!
\$45/PERSON

CHILDREN UNDER 12yrs EAT FREE!

DJ MUSIC BY: **NANDO**

BREAKFAST:
Coffee & Bagels

LUNCH:
Burgers, Hot Dogs, Sausage & Peppers, BBQ Chicken, Rigatoni Bolognese, Homestyle Meatballs, Italian Style Tomato Salad, Garden Salad, and condiments.

DINNER:
Marinated London Broil, Roasted Baby Potatoes, Peas & Mushrooms, Corn on the Cob

DESSERT:
Chilled Watermelon,
Your Baked Goods, Coffee

Spaghetti Aglio e Olio
(Includes Waters, Sodas, & Beer)

**BRING
A BOTTLE
FOR RAFFLE!**
**BRING BAKED
GOOD FOR
DESSERT
TABLE!**

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL:


Br. CHARLES TOTA (914) 924-0347
Br. NICK VACCARELLI (914) 424-8345
Br. ANTHONY MICELI (914) 879-6884
Br. MARIO CERMELE (914) 325-1239



AVANTI

**The Antonio Meucci Lodge #213
Order Sons of Italy in America
279 Maple Avenue
at Antonio Meucci Place
White Plains, NY 10606**

The Avanti will be published 4 times a year. Please mark your calendar for the events you would like to attend so you don't miss out on our wonderful events throughout the year.



ANTONIO MEUCCI


Antonio Meucci was born in Florence on April 13, 1808, the eldest of nine children. Meucci began his academic career in the Florence Academy of Fine Arts at the age of 15 and eventually came to be a stage designer and technician at the Teatro della Pergola in Florence. It was here that he created an acoustic pipe telephone that could be used to communicate between the stage and the control room at the opera house.

He and his wife later moved to Cuba where he continued to work with innovations involving electricity, both for the theater world and beyond. His work included electroplating for the Army and using electrical impulses for pain relief. It was through this latter mentioned work he discovered the "electrophonic" effect which eventually led him to designing the "telegrafo parlante" or talking telegraph.

In 1850, Meucci and his wife settled in Staten Island, NY where he would set up a brewery, with his friend Giuseppe Garibaldi, and a tallow candle factory. However, he never lost interest in working with electricity and electrical innovations, and by 1856 he had created a system to communicate through wires, which was useful so he could speak with his invalid wife who was in a separate part of the house from where he worked. From 1856 to 1870 he created more than 30 telephone prototypes. Then, in 1871 he applied for a patent for his now-called "sound telegraph", however a failure to mention electromagnetic transmission of vocal sound on the patent caused it to lapse in 1874 and be taken by Alexander Graham Bell.

The legacy of Antonio Meucci must never be forgotten. He is a prolific and brilliant inventor who had his hand in various inventions and a man who can stand in the Pantheon of all great Italian inventors and thinkers.

Research by:
Brother Adam Paccena



Antonio Meucci Lodge, No. 213
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WHO WAS ANTONIO MEUCCI

