



Winter 2025

AVANTI

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

UPCOMING Events

February

- 2/12 Officers Meeting, 7:30pm
- 2/22 Carnevale 7:00pm
- 2/25 General Meeting, 7:30pm

March

- 3/12 Officers Meeting, 7:30pm
- 3/25 General Meeting
& Officers Installation

April

- 4/9 Officers Meeting, 7:30pm
- 4/22 General Meeting, 7:30pm

May

- 5/14 Officers Meeting, 7:30pm
- 5/16 Pocketbook Bingo
- 5/27 Scholarships Awards, 7:00pm
- 5/27 General Meeting, 7:30pm

June

- 6/11 Officers Meeting, 7:30pm
- 6/24 General Meeting, 7:30pm
- 6/26-6/29 NYS Convention

July

- 7/9 Officers Meeting, 7:30pm
- 7/20 Italian Heritage Festival
Kenisco Dam
- 7/22 General Meeting, 7:30pm

August

- 8/13 Officers Meeting, 7:30pm
- 8/26 General Meeting, 7:30pm
- 8/31 Lodge Family Picnic

September

- 9/10 Officers Meeting, 7:30pm
- 9/23 General Meeting, 7:30pm

October

- 10/8 Officers Meeting, 7:30pm
- 10/12 Wreath Ceremony
- 10/13 NYC Columbus Day Parade
- 10/24 Halloween Party
- 10/28 General Meeting, 7:30pm

November

- 11/2 Memorial Mass @ OLMC
- 11/12 Officers Meeting, 7:30pm
- 11/14 Pocketbook Bingo
- 11/25 General Meeting, 7:30pm

A Message from your President: Mario Cermele



My Brothers and Sisters,

Happy New Year my friends. To each and every one of you, my best wishes. This calendar year will be a Banner year for our Lodge.

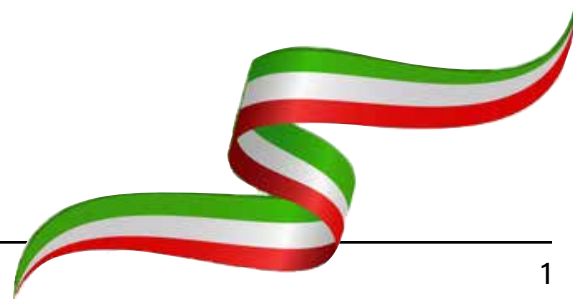
A New Administration with new and old Board Members under the Guidance of our New Lodge President Sr Camille Tarone will be installed. Sr Camille and her Board have my overwhelming support and I am asking each and every one of you to do the same. Join us March 25 as we install our new Slate and thank our outgoing officers.

It has been my pleasure with all your help and support to be your President, to watch our Lodge grow in so many ways.

Our Lodge has achieved so many successes, we have helped many, grieved with our members in their darkest moments, shared great achievements, our Charitable work has been admired and appreciated by all.

Our Success, our positive results, our ways to accept changes, our sense of trying new things and changing with the times are powerful properties that have defined our greatness. Success, opening new frontiers, ideas, changes in the status quo, creates tensions, friction and at times the road to success has been rough, but we can all be very proud of our Lodge, no matter what new ideas or functions were tried under this administration, we always maintained Decorum and Protocol to our Past. Remembering and Honoring our Heritage, we are a family of a glorious Past and a Brilliant Future Reminding those who take us for Granted that we have earned our seat at the Big Table Fighting for our Icons, always remembering our Motto. Liberty, Equality, Fraternity. Let our children know our struggles, our past, our successes. Again, a Big thank you to each and every one of you. Love you All.

Sempre Avanti
Fraternally
Your President
Br. Mario





Antonio Meucci Lodge #213

279 Maple Avenue
at Antonio Meucci Place
White Plains, New York 10606
(914) 761-9073
www.antonio-meuccilodge.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
Annamaria 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 Pacecca • 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



Please join us at our installation ceremony of new officers
which will be Tuesday March 25th at 7:30pm.

Announcing our new slate of officers for 2025.

President – Camille Tarone
1st Vice President- Anthony Miceli
2nd Vice President – Cathy Grisanti
Past President- Mario Cermele
Corresponding Secretary – Rosalie Miceli
Recording Secretary – Caroline Baviello
Financial Secretary – Joe Griffo
Treasurer – Lina Amello
Orator – Nando Alpuche
Chaplin – Joseph Tanzi
Ceremonial Officers - Heidi Banzinger & Roselle Cucuzza
Trustees: Tina Amato, Rita Carolini, Maria DiMiceli, Gino DiMiceli,
Christopher Famularo, Lucy Tocci, Dina Roselli, Charles Guastella,
Maria Malandro, Antonella Capicotto DeLia, Nick Vaccarelli
Sentinels: Adam Pacecca and Linda Innocenzi
Arbitration: Dominick D'Ambrosio, Richard Strobel,
John Rubillo, Anna Maria Forte, Tina Salerno

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

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://antonio-meuccilodge.com>



OFFICERS' MEETINGS

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

Feb. 12 • March 12 • April 9 • May 14

June 11 • July 9 • August 13

Sept. 10 • Oct. 8 • Nov. 12 • Dec. 10

GENERAL MEETINGS

4th Tuesday of every month @ 7:30pm

Feb. 25 • March 25 • April 22 • May 27

June 24 • July 22 • August 26

Sept. 23 • Oct. 28 • Nov. 25

Members are NOT required to RSVP for general meetings.

Deepest Sympathy

To **Brother Carlo Riccobono** on the passing of his mother in law Maria Luongo

To Connie Miceli on the passing of her husband and to **Brother Anthony & Sister Rosalia Miceli** on the passing of their Uncle **Brother Gene Miceli**

To Elizabeth Zingone on the passing of her husband
Brother Joseph Zingone

To **Sister Cathy and Brother Michael Grisanti** on the passing of Michaels dad Frank Grisanti

To **Brother Daniele Miele**, the Miele & Rosamilia families on the passing of their Brother and Uncle Francesco

Get Well Wishes

To our Brothers and Sisters

Antonio Amato, Michael Chillemi, Lucy Codella

Annette Gatti, Michael Grisanti,

Penny Pepe, Teresa Rivero, John Rubillo,

Lillian Tanzi and Rose Tassone

Sending prayers and healing to all those not feeling well.

Congratulations

to **Brother Carlo Riccobono** on his election to President of the West Harrison Fire Department.

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.

NY OSDIA Annual State Convention



This year the annual convention will be held on June 26- June 29, 2025 at the Crowne Plaza Albany, The Desmond Hotel. Our Lodge is one of the oldest Lodges in the State and the largest in District IV. We have 337 members to be exact which requires us to send 7 Delegates, plus the President and the Immediate Past President to the convention. If anyone is interested in representing your Lodge at the convention please contact Sr. Pamela Danza at 914 980-1055. It is an enjoyable weekend where you will have the opportunity to meet many people from other Lodges all over NY State. Many activities and events take place during the weekend to look forward to, ie. Discussions on topics that are important to our Italian heritage, see our charitable donation dollars put to use, and this year their will be the election of a new State President.

Congratulations to our Cornhole Championship teams



First place winning team:

Nothing But Hole- Lorenzo Luciano, Anthony Luciano and Anthony's son Giovanni.

Second place winning team:

Ferrari- Daniele Miele,
Gerry Padula,
Maurizio Rosamilia,
Massimo Rosamilia,
Roberto Rosamilia.



Humanitarian

Charitable Donations

The Antonio Meucci Lodge #213 Inc. has made the following charitable donations in 2024

Scholarships Including Vito Cirioni	\$ 4,000
NYS Grand Lodge Charities	\$ 2,575
The Shepherd's Flock	\$ 2,500
Gift of Sight	\$ 2,540
City of White Plains, Funny Bunny, Music in Plaza	\$ 2,700
White Plains Beautification Foundation ...	\$ 1,500
Mount Carmel Church White Plains	\$ 1,500
Medal of Honor Post 112	\$ 1,000
Cooley's Anemia	\$ 875
Burke Auxiliary in White Plains	\$ 500
McGough Dance Academy	\$ 350
Garibaldi Meucci Museum	\$ 300

TOTAL DONATIONS \$20,340

Donation Drive for Prom Formalwear

Operation prom for 2025 donations will start being collected in late February early March. Drop off times and days to be announced.

Contact Sister Nina Chillemi at 914 879-2373 for more information. Official flyer will be shared soon.



Shepherd's Flock

The Shepards Flock is a not-for-profit, non-sectarian community based organization servicing Westchester County and beyond.

We want to thank all our members for all their donations this past holiday season to the Shepards Flock drive. We were able to secure numerous toys, blankets, children and baby clothes, coats and so much more to the following organizations.

- Eternal Flame Church, Mt Kisco NY
- Cancer support Team, Purchase, NY
- Lifting up Westchester
- The Coachman, White Plains, NY
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel School, Elmsford, NY
- Highlands Middle School, White Plains, NY
- Corpus Christi/Holy Rosary School, Port Chester, NY
- Our Lady of Sorrows School, New York City, NY



Chairpersons
Brother Ray &
Lucy Tocci



Antonio Meucci Lodge Scholarships

Over the years, the Annual Antonio Meucci Lodge #213 Scholarship program has expanded in many categories.

The Annual Antonio Meucci Lodge #213 Scholarships is awarded to a child or grandchild of a lodge member in good standing where dues are paid. In addition, the member must have **joined the Lodge at least one year prior to the deadline of the Scholarship application.**

There is also a scholarship to honor the memory of Past President Brother Frank Tarone. This scholarship is for someone who will pursue a career in the **Vocational/Technical Fields.**

This year the Antonio Meucci Lodge #213 will be awarding to a child or grandchild of a lodge member in good standing a Graduate scholarship to an under graduate student who will pursuing a post graduate field of study.

These applications can be found on the Antonio Meucci Lodge Web site: www.antoniomeuccilodge.com/forms. The deadline for the Scholarship applications and all supportive materials must be postmarked no later than **May 1, 2025.**

If you have any questions you can contact Sis Rita Maria Carolini for further information at 914 656-4095.

Also through the Antonio Meucci Lodge #213 Inc., the family of the late Brother Vito Cirioni will be awarding a perpetual The Vito Cirioni Memorial Scholarship in his name to a worthy senior recipient of White Plains High School. Anyone who wishes to donate to this scholarship in Vito's memory can do so by writing a check to the Antonio Meucci Lodge #213 Inc., and mail it to 279 Maple Ave, White Plains, NY 10606.

In conjunction to the Vito Cirioni Memorial Scholarship the Antonio Meucci Lodge #213 will contribute the same amount of monies to that same worthy recipient at White Plains High School.

Additional Scholarship Opportunities

There are other worthy Scholarships that students can apply to which vary in monies being awarded. Below are a few websites that a students could apply to. Please check application due date and possible fees to apply.

<https://www.niaf.org/programs/scholarships>

<https://columbusfoundation.org/students/scholarships>

www.osdia.org/scholarships

<https://www.fierifund.org>

Check out our website for all available scholarship from many Italian American organizations. [https://antoniomeuccilodge.com/forms](http://antoniomeuccilodge.com/forms)

Grand Lodge Scholarships of New York

In addition the Grand Lodge Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America has their own Scholarships that students can apply to. Please note their deadline is March 31, 2025

Eligibility: Applicant must be of Italian descent and a resident of New York State. Undergraduate and graduate awards are presented to high school or college students who will begin full-time study for the fall academic term of the year their application is eligible to apply for competition. The scholarship awards are based on academic excellence and service. Students must have an average of 85% or above to apply.

This year the NY State Grand Lodge has also established a Vocational/ Trade school scholarship award.

Application Deadline: Applications and all supportive materials **must be postmarked no later than March 31 2025.**

Application Fee: An application fee of \$10.00, made payable to the NYSOSIA Grand Lodge Foundation, Inc. must be included with each application. For applications for the State Scholarships please visit the Antonio Meucci Lodge website www.antoniomeuccilodge.com/forms to download the forms

Grants

The NYSOSIA Grand Lodge Foundation, Inc. also awards several grants for students with special needs. The requirements for grants are the same as noted above with the exception of the need for a minimum of an 85% average. Also, all grant applicants are required to submit a written document of special need.

This form can also be downloaded from the Antonio Meucci Lodge website www.antoniomeuccilodge.com/forms.

If you have any questions regarding the State Scholarships you can contact Sister Margaret Forte District IV Chairperson for further information at 914 337-1387.



Events Calendar



February 22 - Carnevale, 7:00pm

May 16 - Pocketbook Bingo

May 27 - Scholarships Awards, 7:00pm

**July 20 - Italian Heritage Festival
Kensico Dam**

August 31 - Lodge Family Picnic

October 12 - Wreath Ceremony

October 13 - NYC Columbus Day Parade

October 24 - Halloween Party

November 2 - Memorial Mass

November 14 - Pocketbook Bingo



First event for 2025 Pasta Tombola Night

Many Thanks to
Chairpersons
Brother Umberto Amato,
Sister Annamaria Forte and
Brother Gino Di Miceli.
Pasta Tombola was our first
fundraiser of 2025. It was
a huge success.
Both old and new members
attended this successful
event. Thank you to our
many volunteers who
helped make this a great
event.

Check out our PODCAST see link.

<https://antoniomeuccilodge.com/the-lions-den-podcast>

ANTONIO MEUCCI LODGE
presents
CARNEVALE
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2025 | 7:00pm
JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF
ROMANCE, MUSIC AND DANCING
Complimentary Masks & Roses for The Ladies
SPECIAL LIVE PERFORMANCE BY:
VANESSA RACCI
\$75 GENERAL ADMISSION
INCLUDES APPETIZERS, HOT BUFFET,
BEER, WINE & SODA
MUSIC & VIDEO BY:
NANDO
50/50 RAFFLE & PRIZES
BRING DESSERT TO SHARE!
RSVP BY: Feb. 15, 2025
CONTACT:
Rosalia Miceli: (914) 563-4909
Tina Chilleri-Salerno: (914) 774-3540
279 Maple Avenue • White Plains, NY 10606 • Ph. (914) 761-9073
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IAFL - Italian American Future Leaders



One aspect of preserving one's heritage is assuring the older generations pass on the culture and

traditions to the younger generations and that they are engaged. Italian heritage is no exception. It is also important to remember that we are meant to be a part of something bigger than ourselves. We should be able to work with others towards common goals. Italian-American Future Leaders (IAFL) is one such organization that realizes the importance of working together to preserve the Italian heritage by keeping culture and traditions alive while also working towards the future. This is coupled with bringing awareness to the issues Italian-Americans face and the impact that Italians and Americans of Italian descent have had in the United States and the world. I am honored to be able to represent the Antonio Meucci Lodge 213 as well as Order Sons and Daughters of Italy as a whole in this endeavor.

The IAFL conference in Sunrise, FL was a joint effort of several Italian American groups and organizations across the United States, headed by John Viola and Patrick O'Boyle of the Italian-American Podcast and Basil M. Russo, National President of the Order Italian Sons and Daughters of America (ISDA), and Andrea Mauck who is the executive director of IAFL. This conference was a weekend of exploration and discovery for Italian Americans across the country who are passionate about preserving and promoting their heritage. Young adult Italian-Americans came together hailing from states that have a large population of Italian-Americans, such as New York and New Jersey, all the way to "Italian-American deserts," places where Italian-Americans are few and far between such as Alabama and Washington State. However, no matter where we came from, we all shared a common goal: to look to future and do what we can to promote and preserve our wonderful, rich heritage that we love so much.

The conference had its kick-off party Friday night where newcomers (fellows) as well as returning members (alumni) had a chance to meet and mingle.

Saturday, we were bussed to Amerant Bank Arena where Mr. Russo kicked off the event with a rousing speech, we played some trivia, and then each group was given a different topic regarding issues and challenges in the Italian American

community. Each group presented their respective topics and the ideas their groups formulated. The topics included questions about how Italians can better be portrayed in media, how to bridge generational gaps, and how to improve and grow IAFL. This was followed by a speech from a surprise guest: actor, writer and director Chazz Palminteri. Mr. Palminteri gave an incredible and inspirational speech about hard work, perseverance and of course the importance of telling our stories as Italian-Americans. This was followed by an activity headed by the hosts of the Growing up Italian Podcast who assigned us to make 60-second videos from a variety of topics revolving around food, family and other Italian-American themes.

Sunday the topics of the speeches ranged from what Italian American organizations are doing around the country to the importance of preserving the Italian language and dialects to genealogy. Antonio Meucci Lodge's own Maria Theresa Quaranta presented her children's book "Andiamo Fare Shopping Con Mariiii". After the presentations, we then had the privilege of watching the videos we had made the day before. The official end of the conference came with the closing party.


IAFL is an organization that taps into the potential of younger generations to preserve our heritage and gives a platform for older generations to pass down their knowledge and wisdom of our great culture. It provides tools and information for Italian Americans to write their own stories and allows for feedback and contribution from its members. In addition, IAFL allows its members to create memories and build friendships that will last a lifetime. People want to be a part of something bigger and this is a perfect opportunity to realize that and build a community of people who appreciate and enjoy our rich culture and heritage. I am humbled to be able to represent the Antonio Meucci Lodge 213 and OSDIA as a whole and be able to contribute along with all these inspiring young men and women who will make sure that the Italian heritage and culture will be preserved for years to come. Our ancestors struggled and sacrificed to build lives for themselves and their families here in America and there is no better way to thank them than to pass down their stories and traditions not just for our benefit, but also for the benefit of the country and the world. Thank you to Brother Adam Pacecca for attending this conference and providing the highlights of the weekend and all the events.

Respectfully Submitted by Adam Pacecca, also in attendance
Sister Maria Theresa Quaranta



**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 as 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
279 Maple Avenue • White Plains, NY 10606
Ph. 914.761.9812
www.antonio-meucci-lodge.com

**WHO WAS
ANTONIO
MEUCCI**

