

Meeting SDOI 01/18/2026

Meeting called to order 1:33 by President Nicole Smith

Recording secretary Michelle Hujar takes roll call of officers.

Pat Puhak reads the principals of the order in John Hujar's absence.

Dennis Paonessa, Father Mancini passed away this week, and Dennis gave us his blessing for our meeting today.

Membership chairperson Carol Wilson, Kathy Stalnaker wants to be a new member. Motion by Eric Magues and Cheryl Koshar to vote on new member Kathy Stalnaker. Unanimous vote for Kathy to join our lodge.

Cheryl Koshar and Deb Deptuch move minutes not be read since they were sent electronically.

Michelle Hujar reads correspondence from Jane Webb (thank you), Stark State (thank you), Rolling Thunder (rolling thunder), National Kidney Foundation (thank you), Cuy Falls Firefighter Memorial (thank you), Summit Metro Parks Foundation (christmas card), Trailhead Community Health Foundation (looking for money) and American Red Cross (thank you).

Financial Secretary, Jo Dusi reports, some dues have been paid and others have not.

Treasurer, Debi Rauckhorst, November incoming money from Ohio State vs Michigan Game. Three \$1500 donations at Christmas Party. Christmas Party \$265 50/50 \$1,235 from raffle baskets. \$4,934.00 is 50% of 2025 Reverse Raffle. \$6,219 from 2025 for 2026 charities. Debi is looking for a volunteer that might be interested in learning the ropes for future years.

75th Anniversary Dinner, Cheryl Koshar, Jeff Fusco presented the Council with a proclamation for 75 years of service. Awards were given out, Humanitarian Award to a couple for fostering over 200 children. Music by G4. Event was a great success and the council voted to have one every other year.

Deb Deptuch, Memorial Mass Ceremony. Mass was held at St. Anthony Parish. Brunch at the Venue. Beautiful event and 48 in attendance.

Cheryl Koshar on OSU/Michigan Squares.

Michelle Hujar reports on the Christmas Party. \$1,459.30 income from the Christmas Party. Great attendance and appreciation for all the wonderful donations. Pat Puhak was the winner of the Peter Stilletti award. Three scholarships given.

Initiation Dinner/Lunch looking for a new chair for this event. Four scholarships for \$1500 each to be awarded this year. Cheryl Koshar makes a motion and Deb Deptuch seconds it.

Grand Lodge also has applications out for scholarships too. The Italian American Council also has applications out for scholarships.

Grand Lodge asked for a donation for the scholarship, motion to donate \$500 to the Grand Lodge. Cheryl Koshar motions and Denni Paonessa seconds,

Michelle Hujar speaks about the Reverse Raffle April 25 at the Carovillese Club.

Football Squares are still for sale for the upcoming Super Bowl Game. Project Rise, shoes for the homeless small children.

Grand Lodge news: \$1 challenge. Looking for each member to donate \$1. Whichever club has the highest percentage donating, wins a prize. Fun way to donate money!! Our club is looking for a new Historian. Don Ferrante has been holding that position for years. We are looking for a replacement.

John Deptuch council meeting update. Ten scholarships \$3000 a piece. Changed number of delegates and are adding one more per group. Heritage luncheon will be this year in October. Delegate brunch February 28th, see Cheryl Koshar. February 7th Carovillese is having their sausage dinner, Italian Festival Friday July 10th and Saturday July 11th.

Michelle Hujar let members know there are additional polo shirts and t-shirts for sale.

Main Street Kitchen having Reverse Raffle February 20th. \$35 per ticket.

Church having pasta dinner, January 24th, this is at Queen of Heaven in Green, \$12 or \$10 pasta dinners.

Newsletter was sent through iMembers. Difficult to print, but otherwise it is more user friendly.

Nicole Smith speaks to create a plan to eventually purchase a property. Five to Ten year plan. Interested in the planning committee. Looking for members interested in this idea. John Vallillo and Michelle Hujar are interested in helping. Ed Rauckhorst mentioned Italian American Council looking too. We would save on having a storage facility. Down the road, income generated.

Lisa Aglioti questioned the festival only being two days instead of three days. The City of Akron says no other festival is longer than two days.

Kay Messner had one thank you letter from Frank Aglioti for the sunshine club. Anything we can do in memory of Father Mancini. Calling hours will be in Youngstown on Tuesday. John

Vallillo makes a motion for a \$50 donation and Cheryl Koshar seconds the motion. Asking Dave Corsi for recommendations of where to make donations in Father Mancini's memory.

Dennis Paonessa says closing prayers.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:39.