JOHN MICHAEL MARINO LODGE #1389

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ISSUE - 102

SUMMER 2025

LE Notizie

SUMMER, 2025

ORDER Sons and Daughters of Italy IN AMERICA

OCTOBER ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Looking Ahead to October: Italian Heritage Month

Heritage & Culture Calendar

Updates From:
- Foundation
- Heritage & Culture
- Garibaldi-Meucci Museum
- Membership

Inside, Articles By:

President Anthony Cavallaro
Marianne Bortone Prince
Elisa Delaney
Salvatore Tatta
Vincent Sorrentino
Anthony Abbicca
Mary Denisco
David D'Amato
& Dorothy Carbo

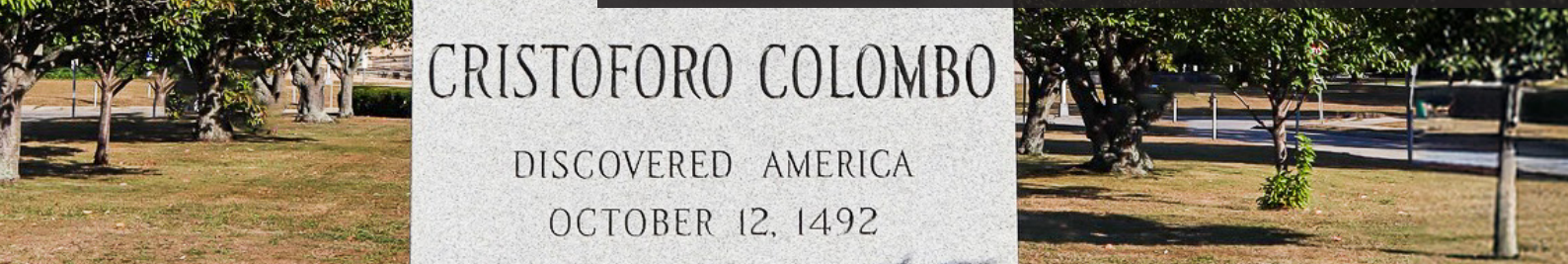
How Well Do You Know Italy?
Trivia with Tony Conetta





Festival Shines Bright for Community in Another Successful Year

Feast co-chairs, President Antony Cavallaro (right) and Principal Trustee Tom Giovenco (left)were all smiles at this year's Festival.



North Hempstead Town Supervisor Jennifer DeSena
and the Town Board, in partnership
with the John Michael Marino Lodge #1389 and Cellini Lodge #2206
of the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America, Present:

OCTOBER
ITALIAN AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH

ITALIAN HERITAGE MONTH

Thursday, October 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Clinton G. Martin Park
1601 Marcus Avenue, New Hyde Park

North Hempstead is proud to host a celebration
in honor of Italian Heritage Month.

Join us as we honor the culture and contributions of residents from
our Italian community with cultural artifacts, refreshments and a

Performance by
Antonio Guarna, "The Voice of Naples"

For more information, please call 311 or (516) 869-6311.



SAVE THE DATE
ANNUAL
LONG ISLAND
COLUMBUS DAY
PARADE
OCTOBER
11, 2025

TOWN OF BABYLON

Floats, Banners, Music and other attractions
will be there for all to enjoy. Following
the parade will be an Italian Food Festival at the
Constantino Brumidi Lodge #2211

OCTOBER
ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
Event Calendar

Presented by Heritage & Culture

5 Sun. 2 PM
Mario Labita from La Dolce Vita
(Italian Music Performance by Mario Labita from La Dolce Vita)
Manhasset Public Library

9 Thurs. 6:30 PM
Italian Heritage Night
(with music by Antonio Guarna, co-sponsored with Cellini Lodge #2206)
Clinton G. Martin Park

11 Sat. 11 AM
Long Island Columbus Day Parade
(Presented by OSDIA
Deer Park

12 Sun. 10 AM
Columbus Statue Wreath Laying Ceremony
(Co-sponsored with Loggia Glen Cove #1016)
Mineola

13 Mon. Morning
NYC Columbus Day Parade
(Bus Transportation Provided by NYS Grand Lodge)

22 Wed. 7 PM
Robert Spiotto Monologue: Pvt. John Michael Marino
Port Washington Public Library

26 Sunday, 3 PM
Classical Tenor Angelo Tannuzzo & Pianist Violetta Zabbi
Port Washington Public Library

Additionally, the Port Washington and Manhasset Public Libraries will display materials related to Italian heritage and culture during October.

A Letter From Our President

John Michael Marino Lodge No. 1389

Brothers and Sisters,

I hope you are enjoying the summer and finding time with family and friends. Over the past few months, our Lodge has once again shown what it means to live our mission of **Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity.** The dedication, spirit, and generosity of our members have been on full display, and I could not be more proud to serve as your President.

One of my proudest moments this year was when our Lodge presented **15 scholarships and awards to deserving students**—our future leaders who will carry forward our heritage and values. Seeing their excitement and hearing about their dreams reminds us why we do what we do. Thank you to all who made this possible.

Congratulations to **Marianne Bortone Prince**, recipient of the prestigious Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro Award at the June convention, and to T**om Giovenco**, honored at Italian Night in Eisenhower Park this July. These recognitions reflect not only their contributions but also the reputation of our Lodge across the Order.

In July, our **Heritage & Culture Committee** organized a wonderful trip to the **Garibaldi-Meucci Museum**. After years of discussion, we finally made this trip a reality. Thank you to all who helped bring it to life. I encourage everyone to visit the museum and consider joining as members to show support.

We also presented the fourth installment of our **My Italian Story** series, featuring **Matt Corlinaldisi**, adding another rich thread to our tapestry of heritage. Preserving these stories ensures our history and culture remain alive for future generations.

A particularly moving moment for me was sharing **research on Private John Michael Marino**, our Lodge's namesake, and hearing members reflect on their own involvement over the years. These stories remind us that our strength lies not only in history but also in the bonds we continue to build

Our **Italian Festival was another success this year**. Thank you too all of our members that volunteered at our largest fundraiser of the year. Please also mark your calendars for our **100th Anniversary Dinner on November 6th**—a once-in-a-century celebration of our Lodge and our community.



Thank you all for your dedication. It is an honor to serve as your President.

Fraternally,
Tony Cavallaro
President, John Michael Marino Lodge #1389

ORDER Sons and Daughters of Italy IN AMERICA

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Proud to support the John Michael Marino Lodge #1389
and celebrate our Italian heritage, community, and shared traditions.
Tony and Maria Cavallaro & Family

In Loving Memory
My parents **John & Lee Nunziata**
Uncles **Nick & Frank Scobbo**
Grandfather **Frank Rose Scobbo**
Great-great Grandfather **Vincenzo Bisaccia**
Members and legacy since 1925.
Thank you for my heritage and culture.
Sandi Nunziata IPP JMML #1389

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100th Anniversary Dinner
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Sandi Nunziata (Co-Chair)
516-297-5383
samn613@icloud.com

Support the
Garibaldi Meucci Museum
by Becoming a Member Today
Become an Annual Member of the
Garibaldi Meucci Museum, and help
"Preserve the Past for the Future"

For more information on membership benefits and prcing, please see our **memership application** on the last page of the newsletter.











Don't go further than you need...
Roslyn Heights Funeral Home

Port Washington's Most Convenient Funeral Home
Family owned & operated we have been serving families of all faiths since 1941

Having second thoughts about where you made your prearrangements? Has the funeral home closed or moved?

Since we believe strongly in the benefits of prearranging, we will even price guarantee prearrangements that were made with other local area funeral homes. You have the right to transfer your prearrangements to our newly renovated, conveniently located, handicap accessible facility. Call us now and our experienced staff can review your arrangements and most likely offer you more or perhaps even save your family money.

Joseph M. Velotti
LISA VELOTTI
MEMBERS OF ORDERS SONS & DAUGHTERS OF ITALY
JOHN MICHAEL MARINO LODGE NO. 1389
RoslynHeightsFH.com

A Letter from Le Notizie

John Michael Marino Lodge No. 1389

Dear Fellow Members and Readers,

Creating *Le Notizie* is only possible because of the many members of the John Michael Marino Lodge who contribute their time, ideas and writing talent. To everyone who has written articles, shared stories, or offered ideas—thank you. The enthusiasm you bring makes this newsletter what it is.

This year brings both exciting milestones and proud traditions. The anticipation of our 100th Anniversary, the upcoming Italian Heritage Month in October, and recent memories of the Memorial Day Parade and our Festival all remind us that we do more than honor Italian heritage—we actively live it.

Our many awards, successful events, and the willingness of so many members to contribute to the life of the Lodge are a testament to what can be achieved when a community works together.

Le Notizie is proud to share these accomplishments and to celebrate the spirit that

Again, thank you to all that contributed to the articles and ideas for this issue of *Le Notizie.*

Contributors for Le Notizie:

President Anthony Cavallaro
Marianne Bortone Prince
Elisa Delaney
Salvatore Tatta
Mary Denisco
Dorothy Carbo
Anthony Abbicca
Anthony Conetta
David D'Amato
Vincent Sorrentino
Julie Cavallaro.
Maria Cavallaro
and Lisa Vecchio Belinsky.



Warmest Regards,

Daniel Simonelli,
Le Notizie, Editor in Chief
John Michael Marino Lodge No. 1389

Follow John Michael Marino Lodge No. 1389 on Social Media:

@JMMLodge1389 on Instagram
www.facebook.com/ JMML1389
@JohnMichaelMarinoLodge1389 On YouTube

Festival Shines Bright for Community

Written by President Anthony Cavallaro in a message to members on September 9, 2025

We recently wrapped up our 44th Annual Italian Festival, and I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all who helped make this event such a tremendous success!
We had more volunteers this year than we've seen in a long time — and it was inspiring to see so many new members stepping up and contributing. This was truly a team effort, and it showed every step of the way.



This festival belongs to all of us, and the dedication, energy, and pride over the past few days proved that once again. I want to especially thank Tom Giovenco, our Festival Co-Chair, for his months of hard work. Since February, Tom has been deeply involved in every detail, including getting our food vendors, setting the entertainment and spearheading the new layout that opened up the water view and created more space for food vendors and seating. What a difference it made! We even caught the attention of News 12 and the Long Island Press!

Although the rain tried to challenge us on Saturday and Sunday, it didn't win — we did. Despite the weather, our members persevered and pulled together to turn what could have been a washout into a successful and spirited festival day and night.

Next, are some well-deserved shout-outs to our area chairs:

- **Food Tent** – Thank you, Allison Prudente and Jennifer Scotto-Robinson
- **Pastry Tent** – Thank you, Krissy Maura Salerno
- Information Booth – Thank you, Nina and Trina Coccarelli
- **Beer & Wine** – Thank you, Chris Avazis
- **Ring Toss** – Thank you, Dominic Dannuzio
- **Membership Tent** – Thank you, Marianne Prince
- **Parking Operations** – Thank you, Tony Conetta
- **Craft Vendors** – Thank you, Sharon Natalie and Elisa Delaney
- **50/50 Raffle** – Thank you, Trina Coccarelli
- **Electric & Emergency Support** – Huge thanks to Giuseppe DiBartolomeo and Home Run Electric for being on call 24/7
- **Set Up and Clean Up -** John Maura

(Continued of following page)



And a special shout-out to **Maria Cavallaro and the Heritage & Culture Tent** — always one of the highlights of our Festival. This year's additions, including the photo booth with Italian backgrounds and a kids' scavenger hunt, were huge hits! Thanks to Arena Graphics (Chris and Maddy Avazis) for the tee shirts for the kids who completed the hunt. The mozzarella-making and other Italian delicacy demos by Sal Tatta were also fantastic. We've received amazing feedback from visiting lodges and our State and National representatives — many said our Heritage & Culture Tent is the best around!

There are many more people to thank, and we will do so at our upcoming Lodge meeting.

Most importantly, this wasn't just a win for us — it was a win for our community. People from across our town, Long Island, and even Queens came to enjoy the event. We showed them what a group of proud Italian Americans can accomplish together.

Thank you again to everyone!

Fraternally,
Tony Cavallaro
President
John Michael Marino Lodge No. 1389



Members dancing to a live accordian player outside our Heritage & Culture tent.



Salvatore Tatta with his son, preparing for the next cooking demonstration.



A young Festival attendee shows off her Scavenger Hunt T-Shirt

Create Your Own Foundation Scholarship by David D'Amato

Did you know that you can create a named or memorial scholarship in honor of yourself, your family, or a loved one through the John Michael Marino Foundation?

The Foundation awards a number of named scholarships to deserving students each year who care deeply about preserving and promoting their Italian roots and culture. To this end, named scholarships have a direct impact on the lives of our student recipients and on the future of the Italian American community as a whole.



Your donation to establish a named scholarship is truly an investment for the future of our Italian American heritage. Please help us make a difference. **General donations to the Foundation can be made via check to: The John Michael Marino Foundation and sent to us at PO Box 1551 Port Washington, NY 11050.** Contact us at **marinofoundation@gmail.com**, for credit card donations or if you are considering support through your estate plans and to learn more about establishing a scholarship, or naming one of our annual programs, lectures, or special events.

Benefits of creating a named scholarship at the John Michael Marino Foundation:

- Honor your family or a loved one, living or deceased, in a meaningful and lasting way.
- Help offset the high cost of tuition and related educational expenses for the brightest and most deserving students in need.
- Inspire your student scholarship recipient to be a future leader in the Italian American community, helping to preserve our culture for future generations to come.

Annual Walk for a Cure by Elisa Delaney

On Saturday, May 17, John Michael Marino Lodge members participated in the 2025 New York Grand Lodge Foundation's **annual Walk for a Cure**. The event was once again held at Marjorie R. Post Community Park in Massapequa Park. It was good to meet up with friends and acquaintances from nearby lodges, sharing hearty greetings and hugs.

The event started off with registration and a light breakfast. The collective group posed for photos and stood at attention for "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "Il Canto degli Italiani," the Italian national anthem. It was then time for a friendly walk. The members enjoyed a chat along the route and, before long, the step commitment was fulfilled!

A couple of lodge members followed the charity stroll with a peek at the bocce tournament which was in progress despite light rain. Finally, a barbeque lunch was served to cap off the gathering.

The proceeds of this worthy event benefit those affected by Alzheimer's, cancer, and autism.

Participants:

- Linda James
- Glen Andersen
- Lisa Vecchio Belinsky
- Elisa Delaney
- Chris Waldenberger
- Marianne Bortone Prince (not photographed)



A Night to Remember: Scholarship & Awards Ceremony

Written by President Anthony Cavallaro

We had a wonderful **Scholarship and Awards Ceremony** this past June! A special thank you to our dedicated committee members, NYS Grand Lodge representatives, and the impressive recipients who were able to attend.

You should all be proud of the hard work over the past year that made this evening possible. Thanks to your efforts, we were able to recognize a remarkable group of students who will go on to further their studies and make us even prouder as Italian-Americans.

A heartfelt thank you to our **Scholarship & Awards Committee** — Jackie Maura Heron (Chair), Maria Cavallaro, Diana Conway, Maria DiNatale Scotto, Jennifer Scott-Robinson, and Mariann Bortone Prince. This team worked tirelessly all year: encouraging applications, reviewing over 30 submissions, ensuring a fair and thoughtful selection process, and coordinating a meaningful ceremony complete with a slideshow of each recipient and video thank-yous from those unable to attend.

Among the many impressive recipients, we're especially proud to share that **Victoria Marie Awadallah,** daughter of Lodge Member Joann Paradiso (seated first row in blue), was named the top scholarship recipient of the Grand Lodge of New York! She received scholarships from both the NYS Grand Lodge and our Lodge.





In addition to Victoria, **Matthew Palmadessa, Parker Hanna, and Adriana Porcaro** also received dual honors from both the NYS Grand Lodge and our Lodge.

Also receiving Lodge Awards or Scholarships were: Stefano Capobianco, Anthony Coccarelli, Nico Coccarelli, Nicolette Fuschetto, Olivia Gade, Michael Mele, Grace Nunziata, Charles Ruebenacker, Paul Trombley, Mia Andel, Brigid Southard, Samantha DiVito, and Xian Bruno.

Congratulations to all our recipients and their families!



To view a special video presentation of our 2025 Scholarship and Awards Ceremony, Scan the QR Code to visit our new YouTube page.

Keeping Tradition Alive

By Maria Cavallaro and Lisa Vecchio Belinsky (co-chairs)

The Heritage and Culture Committee is responsible for preserving and promoting Italian heritage and culture within the Lodge, local communities, and schools. The committee's activities include organizing cultural programs, distributing information about Italian traditions and events, working with local schools that have Italian programs, and updating lodge members on cultural opportunities. Notable responsibilities include hosting Italian Heritage Month programs each October and managing the heritage culture tent at the annual Lodge Festival in September. The committee meets regularly to plan and coordinate these efforts.

Thank you to all the volunteers that helped out at the heritage & culture tent at this year's Festival. This year's programming included traditional displays, live cooking demonstrations, a designated "selfie" photo area, and video presentations.

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Lisa Vecchio Belinsky (co-chair)
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OCTOBER Event Calendar

ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

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ITALIAN AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH

5 Sun. 2 PM
Mario Labita from La Dolce Vita
(Italian Music Performance by Mario Labita from La Dolce Vita)
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Robert Spiotto Monologue: Pvt. John Michael Marino
Port Washington Public Library

26 Sunday, 3 PM
Classical Tenor Angelo Tannuzzo & Pianist Violetta Zabbi
Port Washington Public Library

Additionally, the Port Washington and Manhasset Public Libraries will display materials related to Italian heritage and culture during October.

All events are free and open to all members of the Community.



In November, an exhibit at the Port Washington Library will highlight the John Michael Marino Lodge's 100th Anniversary.

Highlights from *My Italian Story*



A special thank you to **Domenica "Memma" Strangolagalli** and **Matthew Corinaldes**i for their involvement in our documentary series, ***My Italian Story*** (Produced by Daniel Simonelli, Nancy Conetta and Maria Cavallaro).

If you missed our presentation or would like to watch again, **scan the QR Code on the left to view on our new YouTube page** and subscribe to stay alerted about new videos.





Garibaldi Meucci Museum | *Bus Trip Recap*

Written by Marianne Bortone Prince



On July 19th, members of John Michael Marino Lodge #1389 in Port Washington set out for a memorable day trip to the **Garibaldi-Meucci Museum on Staten Island**. The group, comprised of thirty-four members, traveled together by chartered bus.

Their visit included a guided tour led by Museum Historian Professor William (Bill) Castello. During the tour, participants delved into the history of the museum and explored the extraordinary lives and achievements of General Giuseppe Garibaldi, inventor Antonio Meucci, and their families. Lodge member Maureen Scotto-Ferrante remarked, "the tour guide's vast knowledge and impressive expertise truly made the experience unforgettable. My heart and soul were incredibly touched with compassion and empathy for Garibaldi's and Meucci's determination, intelligence, and fortitude."

After the enlightening museum experience, the group gathered at a nearby restaurant to enjoy lunch together, concluding a remarkable and enriching day. Pictured at the entrance to the Museum 5th from left is Lodge President Anthony Cavallaro. Professor Castello appears first row extreme left.

The Garibaldi-Meucci Museum 2025 Antonio Meucci Young Inventors Competition

by Marianne Bortone Prince, Co-chair Garibaldi-Meucci Museum

In honor of the remarkable legacy of inventor Antonio Meucci (1808–1889), whose groundbreaking work laid essential foundations for modern telecommunications, the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum held its 13th annual Young Inventors Competition on Saturday, May 31st, 2025, at the Staten Island Technical High School. The event, chaired by School Programs Coordinator AnnMarie Cicero, is designed to motivate and inspire the next generation of inventors, echoing Meucci's passion for scientific discovery and innovation. The competition is open to all NYC and Long Island students in grades 3 through 8, whether they attend public, private school or are homeschooled, and challenges them to present either an original invention or an improvement of an existing one. Winners are awarded cash prizes, three each for first, second, and third place in each of three grade levels – 3rd & 4th, 5th & 6th, and 7th & 8th.

Sixteen inventions were chosen as finalists: two from 3rd & 4th graders, eleven from 5th & 6th graders, and three from 7th& 8th graders. Judges evaluate entries based on several key criteria: originality, practicality, and the student's ability to articulate the scientific principles underlying their invention. They seek creative solutions to everyday problems, looking for submissions that not only demonstrate inventive thinking but also show clear understanding and application of scientific concepts. Participants are encouraged to present ideas that reflect both imagination and feasibility, and judges reward those who can effectively explain how scientific theories—from basic physics to advanced concepts like relativity—support their inventions.

Antonio Ardovini, grandson of John Michael Marino Lodge members Antonietta and Anthony Ardovini, was a finalist with his invention of a "Fillteration Station". Although he was not an award recipient in 2025, Antonio received an award in 2024 for his innovative invention entitled the "Study Buddy".

By connecting the competition to the spirit of Antonio Meucci's achievements, the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum hopes to foster a lifelong appreciation for science and innovation in young minds, inspiring them to become tomorrow's trailblazers in technology and discovery.



The photo (right) shows the students who participated in the event on May 31st.

Event Calendar

Events take place at the **Garibaldi-Meucci Museum, 420 Tompkins Avenue** on Staten Island unless noted otherwise.

20 September, 2 PM

Musical Journeys with the Black Madonna in Southern Italy

Documentary Presented by Alessandra Belloni, Artistic Director at I Giullari Di Piazza

$15 Non-Members
$10 Museum Members

23 September, 12 PM

Pizza, Pasta, Salad, Calamari & Wine at Osteria Santina

502 Jewett Ave., Staten Island.

Anita Sanseverino and Professor Lou Barrella will give a musical presentation on Neapolitan Song.

$60 per person

14 October, 11:30 AM

Art History Classes Begin: A Five-part Exploration with Prof. Robert Geronimo

From the grandeur of Ancient Rome to the drama and devotion of the Baroque.

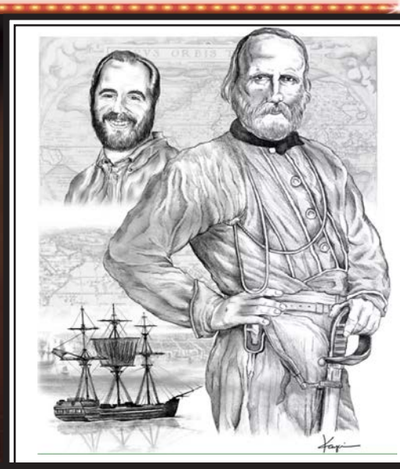
Additional Class Dates Include: 10/21, 11/4, 11/18, 11/25

$125 Non-Members
$110 Museum Members

18 Saturday, October | 2 PM

$20 Non-Members
$15 Museum Members

Bob Spiotto Performs *Garibaldi's Gotham*



Actor, director, producer, & OSDIA member Bob Spiotto, will give his masterful performance and fascinating stories of *Garibaldi's Gotham.*

Tickets can be ordered on-line at GaribaldiMeucciMuseum.com

Order Tickets Online

Scan the QR Codes Below To Purchase Tickets For Museum Events

- **Musical Journeys with the Black Madonna in Southern Italy**
- **Pizza, Pasta, Salad, Calamari & Wine at Osteria Santina**
- **Art History Classes: A Five-part Exploration with Prof. Robert Geronimo**
- **Actor, director, producer Bob Spiotto Performs *Garibaldi's Gotham***

You can also purchase tickets at:
GaribaldiMeucciMuseum.com
Or **Call 718-442-1608**

Sr. Marianne Bortone Prince Earns Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro Award

Written by President Anthony Cavallaro in a letter to members on May 4, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am proud to share some wonderful news with you.

Our very own Lodge Member and Past President, **Sr. Marianne Bortone Prince**, has been named the recipient of the **2025 Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro Award**, one of the highest honors given by the NYS Grand Lodge.

This prestigious award will be presented at the **NYS Grand Lodge Convention** this June. It recognizes Sr. Marianne's exceptional and ongoing dedication to the ideals and principles of our Order:

Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity.



(Above) June 7, 2025: Sr. Marianne is escorted to the podium by Lodge Immediate Past President **Sandi Nunziata** during her acceptance of the **2025 Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro Award**

Sr. Marianne's tireless work speaks for itself. Just last year, her outstanding efforts on the Membership Committee brought in 60 new members, setting a new Lodge record. Beyond our Lodge, she devotes her time and talents to numerous statewide initiatives. These include serving as Co-Chair of the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum, chairing two State Committees — Newsletter Competition and Celebrated Authors — and serving as a CSJ Executive Board Member.

Please join me in offering heartfelt congratulations to Sr. Marianne on this well-deserved honor. We are incredibly proud to have her as part of the John Michael Marino Lodge.

Fraternally,
Tony Cavallaro
President
John Michael Marino Lodge No. 1389



(Right) A photo of the plaque awarded to Sr. Marianne for the 2025 Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro Award. Part of the engraving reads:

"For Those Who Have Distinguished Themselves in the Ideals and Principles Exemplified By The Order's Founder"

Italian Night Shines with a Special Honor for Tom Giovenco

The John Michael Marino Lodge is proud to share that Principal Trustee **Tom Giovenco** was honored by Nassau County on **Italian Night at Eisenhower Park**, July 28. Tom was recognized for his outstanding contributions to the Lodge and his dedication to promoting Italian heritage and culture in the community. The evening, **hosted by Nassau County, featured music by Giada Valenti**, fellowship, and a celebration of Italian culture.

















Town's Senior Recognition Day Honors Lodge Members

The Town of North Hempstead held its 51st Annual Senior Recognition Luncheon at the Harbor Links Golf Course in Port Washington on May 30th. John Michael Marino Lodge #1389 members **Alexander Albanese and Marianne Bortone Prince** were among the honorees, along with Cellini Lodge #2206 member **Roseanne Spinner**. The event "recognizes those individuals who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to their community and selfless spirit."



(Above) Seated first on the left is Alexander; Marianne and Roseanne are seated 4th and 5th.



(Above) Marianne (left), Alexander (right) of John Michael Marino Lodge.

Lodge Awarded Check for Membership Feat

At the recent **Grand Lodge Convention in Albany** this past June, the John Michael Marino Lodge was recognized with a special award for bringing in more than **50 new members in 2024.** The Lodge received a $250 check in acknowledgment of this incredible achievement.

Members enjoyed a memorable time at the Convention, with heartfelt appreciation extended to **Cathy Califano, Maria Cavallaro, Tom Giovenco, Jerry Montemarano, John O'Neil, Marianne Bortone Prince, Sandi Nunziata, and Franca Vani, along with Bene Emeritus Marianne Principe O'Nei**l, for taking time away from work and family to proudly represent our John Michael Marino Lodge.



(Left) The John Michael Marino Lodge #1389 received a plaque for initiating 50 New Members in 2024 at this year's convention in Albany, NY that took place in June.

On **May 21,** two new members were initiated at the Lodge. President Anthony Cavallaro and the officers and members were delighted to welcome them and thanked their sponsors for their recruitment role (Lodge motto, "Just Ask"). Pictured l-r are **Grand Deputy Frank Sammartano, Lodge Mistress of Ceremonies Linda James, Gina Sillitti (sponsor), Lodge President Anthony Cavallaro, new members Dino Napolitano, Paula Landro-Ferrara**, and **sponsor Marilyn Wick.**





On **July 16, Dr. Joseph C. Licata and his wife Cindy Licata** of Port Washington were initiated at our Lodge in a joyous evening in front of our members. Dr. Licata was born in Sicily. Pictured l-r are **President Anthony Cavallaro, Dr. Joseph C. Licata, John Contrino (Sponsor), Cindy Licata, Lodge Membership chair Marianne Bortone Prince and sponsor Charissa Contrino.**

The evening of Wednesday, **August 20th** was a cause for celebration at the Lodge as **new members Michael Stiuso, Anna & Richard D'Egidio** participated in the Initiation Ceremony. Pictured l-r are **Grand Deputy Frank Sammartano, Sponsor Sandi Nunziata, Michael Stiuso, Lodge President Anthony Cavallaro, Anna & Richard D'Egidio, Sponsors John & Charissa Contrino, and Lodge Membership Chair Marianne Bortone Prince.**









Memorial Day Parade Sees Remarkable Turnout

by Vincent Sorrentino

Brothers and Sisters of the John Michael Marino Lodge,

I want to express my gratitude for the remarkable turnout and participation in the **2025 Port Washington Memorial Day Parade**. As some of you know, I am a newer member and an even newer Trustee. When asked to chair the parade, I gladly accepted. With my high school marching band experience, I thought,

> **"How hard could it be?"**



I Soon learned there are quite a few moving parts, and it created a level of anxiousness that I didn't know leading a procession of men and women in red jackets could create.

This feeling lasted until the morning of the Parade, when a swell of members soon gathered near the flagpole. I **believe we had 41 members join us to represent the Lodge, a modern day Lodge record**.
I take no credit for this, as it is our members who show up proudly and march down Main Street on a beautiful



Monday morning that make these types of days special. Personally, I would like to **thank Tom Giovenco** for setting me up for success and sharing his insightful experience. **Thank you to John Maura** for his logistical prowess (and for that exquisite Ferrari 458 Spider seen below!). Thank you to our friends at Amalfi for a well-deserved post-march meal, including dessert. And of course, thank you to all the members who participated. This could not have been possible without you, and it is my honor and privilege to be among those whose combined efforts preserve and promote the rich history and culture of Italian-Americans.



Members Attend Tribute for NY State First Lady



Written By Elisa Delaney

Sunday morning, June 8, found over one hundred OSDIA brothers and sisters at Verdi's of Westbury for the tribute breakfast honoring outgoing **New York State First Lady, Marisol Isgro.**

Six Lodge members attended and enjoyed good conversation and a tasty meal with members of other lodges. Attendees included P**resident Anthony Cavallaro, Maria Cavallaro, Marianne Bortone Prince, Tony Conetta, Elisa Delaney and Chris Waldenberger.**

A Winning Day on the Green





Written By Elisa Delaney

The **OSDIA Grand Lodge Golf Outing** was held on Monday, August 25, at the Town of Oyster Bay Golf Course. The event included golf followed by a cocktail hour and dinner at The Mansion.

Event honorees were **Robert A. Curcio Jr., Salvatore J. Bisulca, and Leonard Saburro,** each of whom were warmly introduced before they spoke. Marty Lyons, former professional football player and philanthropist, also complimented the event and honorees. Marty contributed signed Jets memorabilia for raffle prizes and shared information about his foundation which grants wishes for seriously ill children. **National President, Thom Lupo and State President, Arthur Spera both spoke**. Joe Rondinelli was the enthusiastic emcee.

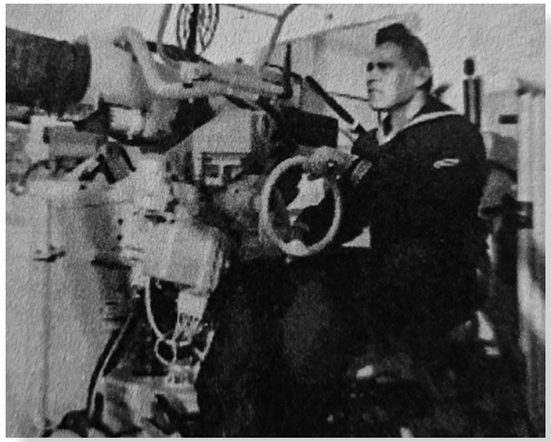
Marianne Bortone Prince, Maria Cavallaro, and Elisa Delaney attended the post-golf festivities, which were very well attended. Much work went into the event with dozens of raffle prizes available. The attendees were generous in their support. Marianne and Elisa were two of the lucky raffle winners. Congratulations to the golf event committee on a job well done!

In Beloved Memory of Brother Michael Ragusa

October 18,1931–June 29, 2025

By Marianne Bortone Prince

Brother Michael (Mike) Ragusa was a 26-year member of the John Michael Marino Lodge #1389, and we mourn his passing on June 29th of this year. Among many things, Mike is best remembered as the author of a biography he wrote fourteen years ago about our Lodge's namesake, Pvt John Michael Marino. That biography has appeared in every Lodge Dinner Dance Journal and new member white welcome folder ever since.



I had the opportunity to interview Mike in 2011 for a Member Spotlight column in our Lodge newsletter. Mike was delighted with the column and so in his Memory, I share that column with our current Lodge membership.

Mike was born in the East Harlem section of Manhattan on October 18, 1931, at the time of the Great Depression. He was the only child of Luigi and Maria (nee Lipani) Ragusa. Maria was three-years old and Luigi seventeen when they and their families emigrated to America from the central Province of Sicily, commune of Caltanissetta.

Upon graduation from Benjamin Franklin High in Manhattan, Mike enrolled at City College of New York in pursuit of a career in Law. While attending college, Mike joined the NY National Guard 165th Infantry Division, better known as the "Fighting 69th". He served in the Guard for three years.

Mike's participation and love of sports led to his first position as Recreation Director for the New York City Parks Department. He was later employed by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's Parkchester Housing Development in the Bronx.

Mike enlisted in the United States Navy during the Korean War, serving aboard the heavy cruiser USS Macon. The cruiser was assigned to the 6th fleet with duty in the Mediterranean Sea and the North Atlantic.

Upon completing his tour of duty, Mike married his childhood sweetheart Santa Volonnino. The two grew up in "the old neighborhood" of East Harlem. Mike recalls his first sight of Santa when at age eleven she roller-skated past him on a street in East Harlem.

In the mid-fifties, Mike began a federal law endorsement career with the US Custom Services Office of Investigations. This career spanned thirty years and saw Mike rise from plainclothes Criminal Investigator to Special Agent. At one time in his career, Mike was the Special Agent in charge at JFK International Airport, which covered Queens, Nassau & Suffolk counties.

Mike had many extraordinary assignments during his lengthy career, such as guarding US Presidents and Presidential Candidates as they traveled throughout the United States. His most rewarding experience was working undercover in the Narcotics and Contraband Unit of US Customs Services. He took immense pride in having been assigned to then Special Attorney in Charge, Dennis Dillon, of the Organized Crime and Racketeering Unit of the US Customs Services .

(Continued on following page).



Mike was a member of the Port Washington Knights of Columbus Council #1227, American Legion Port Washington Post #509, North Shore Elks, President Emeritus & Founder of the Concerned Citizens of Manorhaven Civic Association, and a long-time parishioner of Our Lady of Fatima Church in Manorhaven.

Mike and Santa derived great personal satisfaction from their twenty-six-year membership with the John Michael Marino Lodge #1389. Both have served as Lodge Trustees and shared the positions of Master and Mistress of Ceremonies. They were actively engaged in the Lodge's annual Italian Festivals and served on the Italian Heritage & Culture Committee, and the annual Christmas Party Committee.



Married for seventy years at the time of his passing, Mike and Santa are the proud parents of Linda (DeMeo), Michael Jr., and Louis. They are the jubilant grandparents of Nicole, Nicky, Michael, Greg, Steven, Mathew, Justine, and Danielle, and great-grandchildren Michael, Hannah, Rosalie, Max, Dash, Bryce, and Sierra. Mike and Santa felt extremely fortunate that their beloved family lived in or in close proximity to Port Washington.

Remebering Santa Ragusa



With deep sadness, we also remember Santa Ragusa, who passed away in Augiust. Santa was a long-time devoted member of our John Michael Marino Lodge and will always be remembered for her big smile and warm, welcoming words, often greeting our new mebers and making everyone feel at home. Santa's beloved husband of 70 years, Lodge member Michael Ragusa, also passed away this past June and together they were a shining example of dedication to family, our Lodge and the community.

In Loving Memory of Brian Calenda

Written by President Anthony Cavallaro

Brian had been a member of our Lodge since December 2010, always participating in and supporting our events whenever he could.

Brian and I also served together on the Board of the Port Washington Youth Activities for over 20 years, where he continued to serve with dedication until his passing. He was involved in all sports and played a vital role in helping PYA grow into what it is today. Even after many years of service, Brian continued to give back as a lacrosse referee, ensuring that children had the opportunity to learn, develop, and grow through the game. Brian will be deeply missed by all.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family—his wife Lisa and sons Ryan and Kyle—during this difficult time.
In honor of Brian, our Lodge will place a meBrian will be deeply missed by all. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family—his wife Lisa and sons Ryan and Kyle—during this difficult time.
morial brick in his name at the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum, ensuring his contributions and memory will live on.

In Loving Memory of past Lodge President Tom Amato

A Letter from President Anthony Cavallaro to Members on September 9, 2025



Brothers and Sisters,

It is with deep regret that I inform you of the passing on September 7, 2025 of longtime John Michael Marino Lodge member and past Lodge President Tom Amato.

Tom joined the John Michael Marino Lodge in 1992 and remained an active and dedicated member, regularly attending meetings until his move to Florida. Over the years, Tom held several leadership positions, including Vice President, Chaplain, and served as President of the Lodge from 2007 to 2009. He was also a former Festival Chairman, and actively contributed to our Heritage & Culture Committee as well as our Newsletter. Additionally, Tom served on the Board of the John Michael Marino Foundation.

As you can see, Tom played a vital role in shaping our Lodge into the organization it is today. His contributions and commitment to our Lodge and community will not be forgotten.

If you would like to send a condolence card, please mail it to:
3400 Red Tailed Hawk Drive
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34952

In memory of Tom, the Lodge will be purchasing a commemorative brick in his honor at the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum.

Please keep Tom, his beloved wife Veronique, his daughter Delphine Hautefeuille, his granddaughter Sybil, and the entire Amato family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Fraternally,
Tony Cavallaro
President
John Michael Marino Lodge No. 1389

Remembering Josephine “Joy” Cosenza

A Letter from President Anthony Cavallaro to Members on September 2, 2025



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is with deep sadness that I inform you of the passing of long-time John Michael Marino Lodge member Josephine “Joy” Cosenza on August 29th, at the age of 91.
When her health allowed, Joy was a faithful attendee at our Lodge meetings, always accompanied by her beloved husband Henry, who passed away in April 2024. Joy and Henry were known for greeting everyone with a warm smile and kind words, especially welcoming new members to our Lodge family.
Joy is survived by her daughter Helen Cosenza and son-in-law Christopher Murphy.

For those who wish to send a condolence card may do so by addressing it to:
The Family of Joy Cosenza
Care of Roslyn Heights Funeral Home
75 Mineola Avenue
Roslyn Heights, NY 11577

Lisa and Joe Velotti will ensure all cards are delivered to the family. In accordance with our tradition, the John Michael Marino Foundation will purchase a Memorial Brick in Joy’s honor, to be placed at the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum. Please keep Joy and the entire Cosenza family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. We also extend our heartfelt condolences to our fellow Lodge members Daryl and Cindy Zimbardi on the recent passing of Cindy’s father Roland Amigues. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their family as well.

Fraternally,
Tony Cavallaro
President
John Michael Marino Lodge No. 1389

Touring Italy's Campania Region

By Elisa Delaney

Part 1

This past July, I enjoyed a European "workation," the highlight of which was a week in **southern Italy's Campania regio**n. So, I conveniently flew non-stop from Zurich to Naples, where a friendly transfer was arranged and the adventure began.

Hello from Monte di Procida!

It's been terrific. My B&B proprietor, Enzo took me on a little welcome tour, and he stopped when he saw some other friends and picked up Vincenzo, who is here from Pennsylvania for a few weeks. He has six pizzerias in Virginia and Pennsylvania and he translated when Enzo was limited.



My first stop was **Monte di Procida,** from which my mother's paternal grandparents hailed. This town is located within the Phlegraean Fields west of Naples, a region rich in volcanic and thermal activity. The guesthouse proprietor, Enzo, took me on a welcome ride with stops of panoramic beauty. This gentleman had more friends than English, so he enlisted the help of Vincenzo, home from Pennsylvania, where he runs six pizzerias. Together, they shared town history, attempted to identify potential relatives, and shed light on my mother's family name. (I learned Mazzella di Bosco is not the same family as Mazzella.)

Vincenzo explained that the island of Procida held Monte di Procida's records until the early 1900's. Both Enzos related the story of a long-ago storm which destroyed an island church, whose Madonna miraculously washed up on Monte di Procida. A ceremony was recently conducted which returned the Madonna to Procida. The men then gave a waterfront tour, Enzo arranged my ferry ticket to Procida, and we all enjoyed espresso at the beach bar – my small gesture of thanks. (I also told Vincenzo about OSDIA!)

Fortified by a Caffè Americano the next morning, I boarded the ferry and was soon treated to the famous pastel houses of the smallest island in the Campanian Archipelago, The coastal homes on Procida are painted different colors so that fishermen can identify them from the water, especially through heavy sea fog. This tradition has deep roots and is a cultural hallmark of this island, whose name translates roughly to "thrown up by the waters," deriving from the Greek Prochyta.

Both Enzos related the story of a long-ago storm which destroyed an island church, whose Madonna miraculously washed up on Monte di Procida. A ceremony was recently conducted which returned the Madonna to Procida.



I am on Procida for the day. It's so much better than I thought it would be. I have never been here and this is the town my great-grandparents immigrated from. I have one 98-year-old cousin who was born there!



I had eight hours to explore this island while monitoring and responding to work email, but island magic cast its spell.

Despite strong sun and 90-degree (F) heat, time seemed to stretch, and goals were mostly accomplished:

1. Sampled Procida's fragrant sfogliatelle, hot from the oven.
2. Explored two gorgeous churches, decked out for the jubilee year.
3. Followed the Marina Grande to a local beach and swam in the Tyrrhenian Sea.
4. Admired the Nautical Institute, which has trained generations of Procidan seafarers to sail all ocean routes
5. Shared lunch with an old seabird who declined bread but scarfed down my olives and mozzarella!
6. Reached the ancient Abbazia di San Michele Arcangelo – worth every steep step. I could have stayed there for hours.
7. Viewed a gorgeously decaying fortress turned penitentiary (now closed) and wondered about being trapped in a cell with such tantalizing vistas.
8. Peeked into an art studio, where two men were loading giant painted mushroom sculptures into a truck as an even larger Cheshire Cat stared from a wall!
9. Enjoyed unparalleled views of the Tyrrhenian Sea and Bay of Naples while sipping a limoncello spritz procured from a food truck by the studio.
10. Pinched myself for the experience of such an exquisite place.

Luckily the walk back to the ferry was downhill and with fifteen minutes to spare, I en-joyed a concert by the marina before boarding. Upon arrival at Monte di Procida, I learned the limited bus service would only take me halfway, I inhaled deeply and faced an uphill half-hour while the sun descended. I was ready for a good night's sleep before packing and setting off for my next volcanic destination, Ischia, the largest and possibly most beautiful island in the Bay of Naples.

Look out for Part 2 in a future edition of Le Notizie.



Mangia! Tutti a Tavola!

with Chef Sal Tatta

A celebration of Italian flavors, recipes, and stories, that bring our time-honored culinary traditions and heritage to your table, Buon Appetito!

This culinary piece is dedicated to the memory of Chef Anne Burrell.



(Above) Picture: Chef Anne Burrell and I at Guastavino's Restaurant, 2001
Picture Credit: Salvatore Tatta

Italian food, as we all know, is more than just food. It is a powerful expression of our identity. It is a celebration of our culture, family, and history. For me, it has always been a deeply personal connection to my Italian roots. They say, "the kitchen is the heart of the home", and in Italian families this could not be more true. Our kitchens have always been more than just a place to prepare meals. They are places of warmth, where we would gather and stories would be told. And those dishes told us their story. Stories from our mother and father, our nonne or nonni, our zii and zie, who, through their calloused and weathered hands, poured their souls into the food they grew and then made, leaving us the gift of traditions that still live on in our kitchens today. They transformed simple, humble ingredients into memorable gastronomic masterpieces.

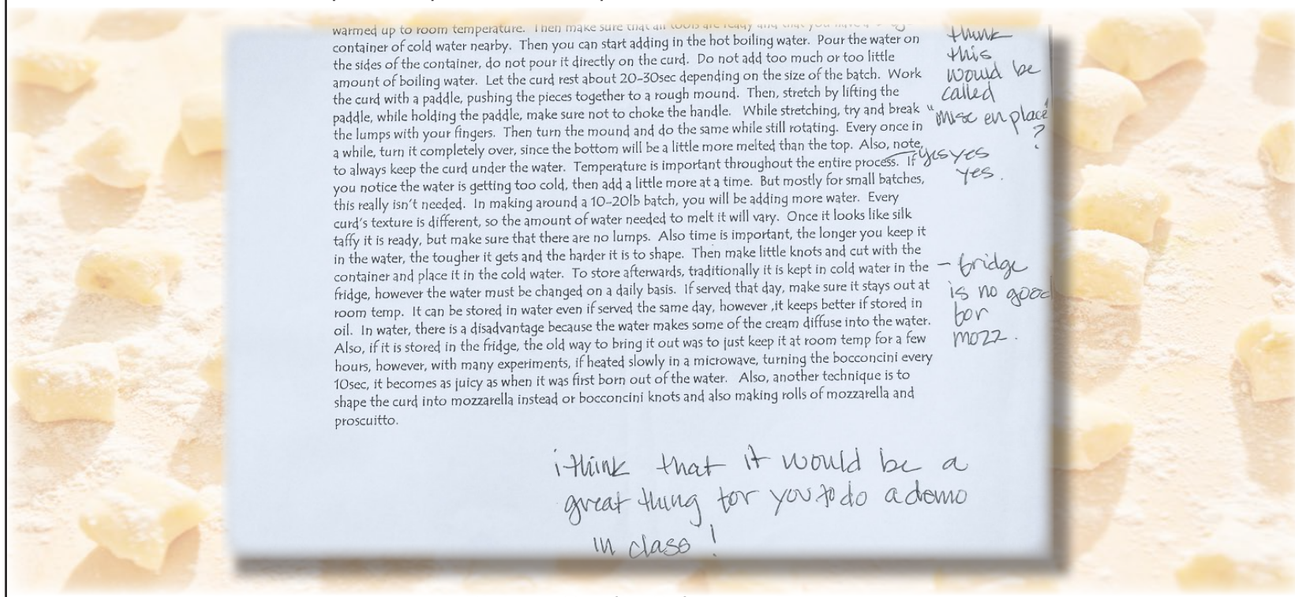
As first-generation Italian-Americans, all of our traditions, ways of life, and, above all, our food were homemade. From tomato sauce to pizza to wine. That early exposure to authentic Italian cooking laid the foundation for my life-long culinary passion. Driven by that passion and a love for cooking since my childhood, about 25 years ago, led me to pursue formal culinary training part-time while balancing a career as an Electrical-Biomedical Engineer. I earned my professional chef degree at the Institute of Culinary Education (ICE), where I had the privilege to be taught by one of the most influential figures in my culinary journey, the late Food Network "superstar" Chef Anne Burrell. Having Chef Anne as my chef instructor was unforgettable. Her energy, confidence, and love for bold, authentic flavors left a permanent mark on how I approach Italian cuisine.

I learned a heck of a lot from Chef Anne. Her lessons were invaluable. She was full of so many iconic catchphrases like "brown food tastes good!" in reference to the "fond" flavorful brown bits of food that stick to the bottom of a pan after searing or sautéing; or her "taste as you go" a tip that she often shared in class and also on her show, Worst Cooks in America.

To me, it wasn't just her catchphrases; it was the way Chef Anne taught. It wasn't just her emphasis on a technique; she taught it as a philosophy. A philosophy that taught us confidence in the kitchen, respect for our ingredients, and above all, respect for the food itself. This philosophy, for me, extended beyond cooking. It influenced me in the way I live and mentor my staff in Engineering. Anne empowered us to trust and to believe in ourselves, and that confidence continues to shape the way I cook to this day.

One of Chef Anne's biggest lessons was to "always think." In my second workshop exercise with her, she scribbled a note on my paper that read, "It is amazing what happens when we think things out!" So true! That mindset carried into everything I cooked: "read the recipe first," (then rewrite it so it makes sense to you), season every layer, taste constantly, choose the right pan, don't overcrowd it, use the right knife, stay organized (mise-en-place!- some French there), be fearless, trust your palate, and never garnish with something that isn't part of the dish.

In class, we also had a workshop on fresh mozzarella. Below is what I wrote about it. Chef Anne commented below... and I did perform a fresh mozzarella demonstration for our class. Same as I did last year, and at our Festival this year!

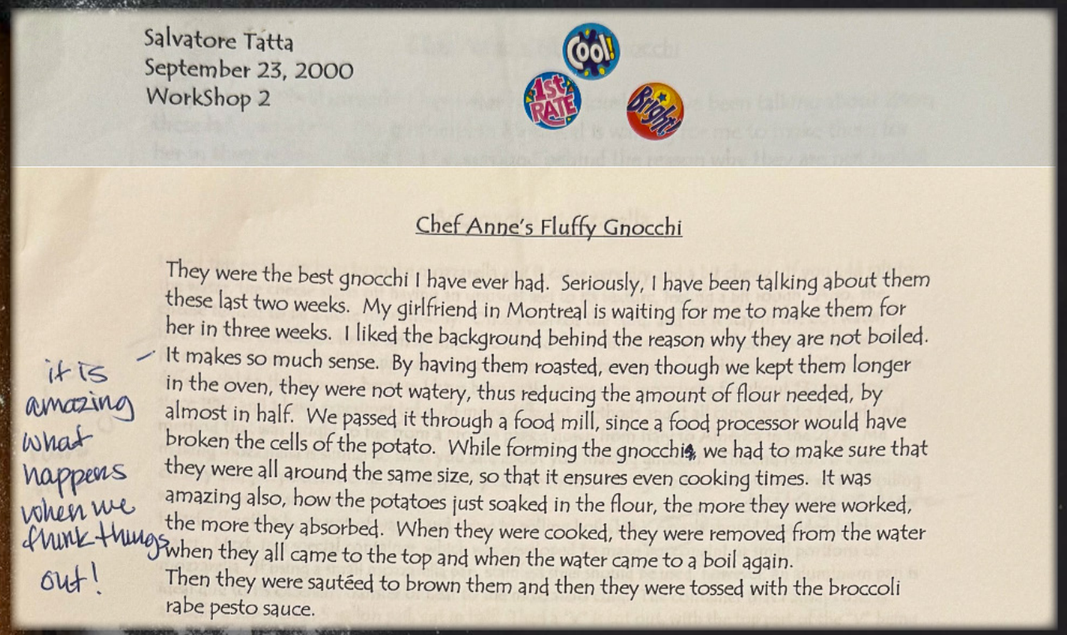


Picture Credit: Salvatore Tatta

Two of Chef Anne's most memorable recipes for me were her gnocchi and risotto recipes. These are two cornerstones of traditional Italian dishes. On the next page, I share my gnocchi recipe and in the next edition, risotto!

From my old ICE school notes, here are some of her timeless tips for light and fluffy gnocchi:

1. Don't add too much flour
2. Bake potatoes instead of boiling them. When baking them, you do not use a lot of flour for the water to absorb it
3. Pass potatoes through a food mill (for a smoother texture)
4. Cool them (before mixing)



Salvatore Tatta
September 23, 2000
WorkShop 2

Chef Anne's Fluffy Gnocchi

They were the best gnocchi I have ever had. Seriously, I have been talking about them these last two weeks. My girlfriend in Montreal is waiting for me to make them for her in three weeks. I liked the background behind the reason why they are not boiled. It makes so much sense. By having them roasted, even though we kept them longer in the oven, they were not watery, thus reducing the amount of flour needed, by almost in half. We passed it through a food mill, since a food processor would have broken the cells of the potato. While forming the gnocchi, we had to make sure that they were all around the same size, so that it ensures even cooking times. It was amazing also, how the potatoes just soaked in the flour, the more they were worked, the more they absorbed. When they were cooked, they were removed from the water when they all came to the top and when the water came to a boil again. Then they were sautéed to brown them and then they were tossed with the broccoli rabe pesto sauce.

it is amazing what happens when we think things out!

Picture Credit: Salvatore Tatta

Before I share my Fluffy Gnocchi recipe, and with summer winding down, I'd like to give you another glimpse of what's to come in future editions of 'Mangia! Tutti a Tavola!'...the Jean Talon Market! The Jean Talon Market is one of my greatest sources of culinary inspiration. It is nestled in Montreal's vibrant Little Italy neighborhood in Quebec, Canada. Visiting is always such a treat, and it's closer than you might think! But I'll save that story for another time....for now, let's get rolling with some gnocchi!

Recipe adapted from Chef Anne Burrell and CIA (Culinary Institute of America)

Fluffy Gnocchi

By Salvatore Tatta

Yield: 4 Servings | Prep Time: 25 miniutes | Cook Time: 1 ½ hours | Total Time: 2 ½ hours

Mise-en-Place: "Read the recipe first – think things out! – rewrite it so it makes sense to you – season as you go – taste – choose the right pan"

INGREDIENTS

- 5-6 Idaho or russet potatoes (large) (approx. ½ 5lb bag)
- 2 Eggs (beaten)
- ½ - ¾ Cups Parmigiano Reggiano cheese (grated)
- 3½ - 4 Cups All-Purpose Flour (King Arthur unbleached)
- 1 teaspoon Salt

TOOLS

- Food Mill – fine disk
- Baking sheet pan
- Parchment paper (2)
- Food scraper
- Fork

COOKING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 400°F.
2. Wash and bake potatoes (with skin) until fork tender (approximately 1 hour - start checking around the 45-minute mark)
3. Peel potatoes while still hot.
4. While still hot, press them through the finest disk of a food mill.
5. Spread the riced potatoes on a sheet pan with parchment paper (do not cover). Cool in the fridge.
6. In a bowl, beat together eggs, Parmigiano Reggiano cheese, and salt. Cover and place aside until potatoes are super cold.
7. ***When completely cool, gather potatoes together on the work surface. Create a well.
8. Pour the egg mixture into the well.
9. Using both hands (finger tips), work potatoes and eggs together. Scrape work surface as necessary with your food scraper.
10. Once well combined, add 3 Cups of flour and begin to knead the dough.
11. Gradually add ¼ Cup of flour at a time and knead just until the dough is slightly moist and not tacky.

NOTE: Incorporating all ingredients should take no longer than 10 minutes.

TIP: Minimally knead; the longer the dough is worked, the more flour it will need, making the gnocchi super dense.

12. Form the dough into a large log. Score the dough evenly into 8 pieces.
13. Dust the work surface with flour. Cut off a piece from the log while covering the rest with plastic wrap.
14. Dust hands with flour, roll the piece into a 1" thick rope. Cut into ½" pieces using the food scraper.

If the dough remains sticky, coat it with additional flour.

15. Hold a fork at a 45° angle to the table and indent each gnocchi with your thumb on the tines of the fork to make a ribbed effect and slight indentation with your thumb.
16. Generously toss all gnocchi pieces with flour.
17. Arrange the gnocchi in a single layer on a floured parchment-lined sheet pan; do not stack on top of each other.
18. Repeat and continue until all the dough has been formed into gnocchi.

To cook the gnocchi:

19. Cook fresh or cook frozen. Cook directly from freezer into 6 quarts of salted (2TBS) boiling water.
20. Drop gnocchi into boiling water a few at a time (not to get splashed and burned). Stir continuously with a wooden spoon.
21. Cook the gnocchi for 2-3 minutes, or until they float to the surface and get nice and fluffy.
22. When cooked, remove the gnocchi with a slotted spoon and transfer to a pan with the sauce of your choice.
23. Toss or stir the gnocchi until well-coated with the sauce.
24. Plate and top with freshly grated Parmigiano Reggiano cheese (a.k.a. lots of "snow")
25. Serve immediately and enjoy!

Additional Tips:

- **Freezing gnocchi is a great way to prepare ahead for a quick and easy meal.**
- **The key is to freeze them in a way that prevents them from clumping together.**
- **Once shaped, spread evenly on a parchment-lined sheet pan, flash freeze for about 3 hours or until the gnocchi are frozen solid. Transfer them to a freezer-safe bag and make sure they do not stick together.**
- **Gnocchi can be stored in the freezer for up to 3 months.**

Introducing
Dorothy Carbo

We are thrilled to welcome author, **Dorothy Carbo,** as a contributor for *Le Notizie*. Dorothy will be sharing memoirs from her childhood and life in a new recurring column, ***La Famiglia,*** and the first installment can be found on the following page.

These are excerpts from a larger developing history of an Italian family who came to the United States, the Land of opportunity, and how fortune affected their lives.

Please join us in welcoming Dorothy Carbo to Le Notizie.

"By the time you read this I have turned 95"



(Above) Dorothy Carbo celebrating her 95th birthday with friends and family in July of 2025 at Leonard's in Glen Cove, Long Island, NY.

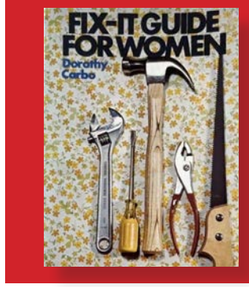
My name is Dorothy Carbo (born Zullo). By the time you read this I have turned 95. I was born July 27, 1930, at the height of the Depression. I am of sound mind and strong of spirit.

I was adept with tools and was interested in women's capabilities. I taught as a Home Repair specialist with Cornell Cooperative's Handivan and also for Women's School in evenings. I had published "A Fix-it Guide for Women", by Fawcett Publications. I did cross country television demonstrations under the promotions of "Bully", encouraging women to take charge of their environs in plumbing, electricity, carpentry, and tools.

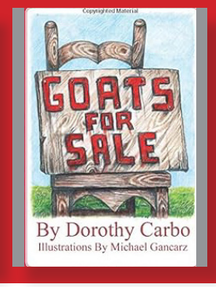
I had three children and a knack for rhyme, so I wrote childrens' stories, some of which I published through Amazon; "Timmy's Teddy"; "Goats for Sale"; "The Cloak"; "Mommy What Should I Think Of" and many more that await an illustrator.

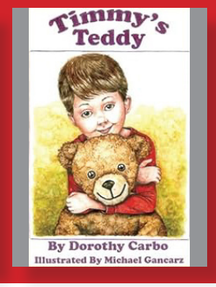
Along with these, I have developed stories of the family from their history and adapting to a life in America. I hope you will enjoy them.

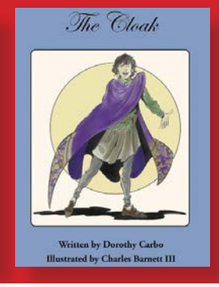
(Below) A selection of books written by Dorothy Carbo.











Hooray For Roosevelt

by Dorothy Carbo

It was 1934 and the depression hit hard - no jobs - no money to feed the kids. But the worst blow was the notice from the bank with "FORECLOSURE" in big black letters. No payments had been made on the mortgage for many months. Many of the houses on the street had signs in their front yards or on the door - FORECLOSED. The families that lived there were evicted. Their belongings and furniture were piled at the curb. They packed and gathered whatever they could carry and went to live with relatives or friends who had pity and compassion. But the famitv at 1434 were 12, Mama and Papa, Ri,, Charlie, Josie, Millie, Adeline, Mike, Margaret and 3 kids. They had already lost the house in Schenectady for taxes, so where were they to go? Who would take them In?

Margaret was the best spokesperson - intelligent, calm, unemotional, and resolute. She had accompanied Papa Emilio to his compensation hearing three years earlier and spoke on his behalf, as he was limited in the English language. She won the case for him and he rewarded her with a new dress and then after did not denigrate her. So the family thought she should go to the bank and try to save them from eviction. Mike thought he should go with her for moral support and because he had gotten used to making speeches at union meetings. He thought he might be convincing especially if the bank manager wouldn't listen to a woman. And so they went - hat in hand - explaining that the family had six skilled workers willing and ready to take any job - machinists - plasterers - salesmen - seamstresses or any manual labor avaitable so they could save the house. The manager was sympathetic but said that many people were in the same predicament and there was nothing he could do. In spite of their pleading, he turned them away and so they walked out the door hand in hand, heads bowed, tears welling in their eyes and in their throats choking with the dread to go home to tell the family they had failed and they had 30 days to evacuate - wondering where to go - what to do - nowhere to tum.

(Continued on following Page)



(Above) An old photo taken of the front exterior of the house located at 1434 79th Street in Brooklyn, New York that Dorothy grew up in and serves as the setting in many of her memoirs. She lived in the same house until she was married and with her parents, into the mid-1990s.

These memoirs are copywritten and owned by Dorothy Carbo, who has granted Le Notizie and John Michael Marino Lodge No. 1389 permission to use in our publication.

Hooray For Roosevelt by Dorothy Carbo
(Continued)

Somehow divine intervention, a miracle, Christian empathy - human empathy came upon the scene.

The bank manager watched them walk slowly away and in such despair and was stricken by human empathy. He realized their sincerity, their willingness to abide by any salutation, their hanging by a thread of hope - on him and his decision.



(Above) Dorothy Carbo's grandparents and father.: Emilio Zullo (left) Michael Zullo (baby, middle) Rosaria Zullo (right). Schenectady, NY c. 1903.

He shouted out, "Wait! Come back. I might find a way to help you." Startled with glee they raced back.

He rifled through the papers on his desk, said he had just gotten information about Roosevelt and the New Deal in the form of a government program called HOLC (Home Owners Loan Corporation). Whereas the government would assume the mortgage making the bank whole and allowing the mortgagees to make long term payments to this corporation which was owed to the government.

Mike and Margaret were beyond awe - was this real? They were so elated - they had been brought back from the edge of doom.

He said take these papers home, have Emilio and Sara sign them and I will transfer them to HOLC. Here is the card of the Social Service Organization who will come to visit you and supply you with food and other necessities until the Government stabilizes the economy, and surely in a few days a man came by with a large box of vegetables, bread and milk, good and a credit for coat delivery… If ever prayers were answered…the home was saved and there was hope for a brighter tomorrow.

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Come to My "Play Street" in Brooklyn

By Mary Denisco

I hope you will enjoy revisiting with me my street in Boro Park, Brooklyn, in the 1950's. My neighborhood was primarily an Italian-American, and a Jewish-American neighborhood. My Dad, John A. Boccieri had a plumbing business (Duo Plumbing and Heating Inc., established in 1939 with my Uncle Peter Chiarello) which is still family owned in Staten Island. The office, shop and supply house was located on 57th Street and New Utrecht Ave, next to the "El" (the elevated tracks of the BMT Coney Island Line). We lived in an apartment above Dad's business. My block had apartment buildings, as well as single-family houses lining both sides of the street leading to 14th Avenue.

So, what was so special? It was an officially designated NYC Play Street, which meant the Play Street sign attached to a pole and a cement weight was rolled out each day across the top of the street making it closed to traffic but open for play. Only my father's trucks were permitted to drive down the street to get to their garages. Kids from "around the block" came to play on 57th Street.

No expensive equipment was needed for our games and activities. We just needed bottlecaps, broomsticks, decks of cards, baseball cards, jump ropes, chalk, jacks, Spaulding High Bouncer rubber balls (called Spauldeens in Brooklyn), sidewalks, and our street with sewer covers. Often games were played with both boys and girls on the same teams, and the age span of players covered several years.

Potsy was NYC Hopscotch where boxes from I to IO were drawn in chalk and a marker (a stone or stick) was tossed into a numbered (in numerical order) box and you must jump with one foot in each box, and turn on "10" and on the way back pick up the Potsy (today, there are YouTube videos to watch a game and view the rules). We often played Hit the Coin or Stick where two players used two concrete squares of sidewalk. Here aim and a soft touch helped you as you focused to hit the coin and earning a point. Sometimes you helped your opponent by moving the coin closer to him or her. Boxball was also played on blacktop or the side walk using four boxes and hitting the ball with an open hand. Of course, a Spauldeen High Bouncer costing $0.25 was used.

Some fun games were played on stoops, that is, the flat top of a short flight of stairs outside an apartment building. We, mostly girls, played Jacks, wearing off the skin on our hands on the concrete. The classic Italian card game known to us as Brisk as great. We used a regular deck, minus the 8' s, 9' s, and 1 0' s, The term trump/ trumping was part of this game denoting the trump suit won over any other card. Stoop ball was played on the outer edge of one of the steps on a stoop, where the rubber ball had to hit the edge and come back on a fly to score points.



(Above) Writer Mary Denisco with her siblings, The Boccieri Five. (Front) Theresa Zenobio, b. 1942, Eugene Boccieri b. 1946 (Back) Michael Boccieri b. 1952, Joan Gilroy b. 1948, Mary Denisco b. 1944

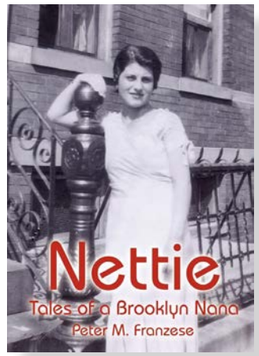
A Review of *Nettie: Tales of a Brooklyn Nana*

by Anthony Abbicca

As a little boy visiting my grandmother on Beadle Street in Greenpoint Brooklyn the world felt slower, softer. Her hallway creaked like it had secrets, and the air always smelled of sauce that you smell on a Sunday afternoon. Beadle Street wasn't long, just a short street between Vandervort Ave. and the Greenpoint Gas towers.

Outside, Beadle Street had its own sounds: the rustle of trees whispering things only children could hear, the distant bark of dogs, the squeaky sound of the neighbor's doors. I'd hop the cracks in the sidewalk like they were lava, chasing the shadows of birds that flew low and lazy over the rooftops.

When I found out that there was a book dedicated to this street, I was very excited. Knowing the block had its Italian culture with wine cellars in every other connected house I dove into the book immediately.



The book is called, ***Nettie: Tales of a Brooklyn Nana***, by Peter M. Franzese. Peter M. Franzese first wrote Nettie's life story in a 6th-grade class assignment in September 1989. The memoir, eventually published in December 2004, captures memories shared by his grandmother Nettie Boniface—born to Italian immigrants in Brooklyn—during the World Wars and the Great Depression, up through the end of the 1980s.

The narrative unfolds in Greenpoint–Williamsburg, Brooklyn, blending the sensory richness of family cooking and daily life with broader historical and immigrant experiences.

The book has grandfather-to-grandson style memoir rich with family voices and cultural details. It offers a first-person view of twentieth century events through everyday life in an Italian American Brooklyn community. It has many scenes like preparing tomato sauce in the Brooklyn flat, singing and enjoying the modern Italian culture and just seeing how the whole family met for Sunday afternoon dinner.

Many different themes are mentioned like child abandonment, strained family dynamics, neglect. It is geared towards readers of family memoirs or immigrant stories with focus on personal history. Those interested in Brooklyn's early mid 20th century Italian American communities, and adult readers who appreciate historical, emotional, and culturally textured storytelling. It reminded me so much of my childhood when visiting Beadle Street. Just having a book dedicated to the life of this small block and the tightness of those who came over from many areas in Italy.

Nettie: Tales of a Brooklyn Nana delivers a poignant, family centered memoir grounded in real history and everyday life. Narrated through a grandson's perspective yet deeply shaped by his grandmother's voice, the book captures both warmth and hardship. It's a compelling read for those drawn to personal histories and mid century urban immigrant narratives. I would highly recommend it.

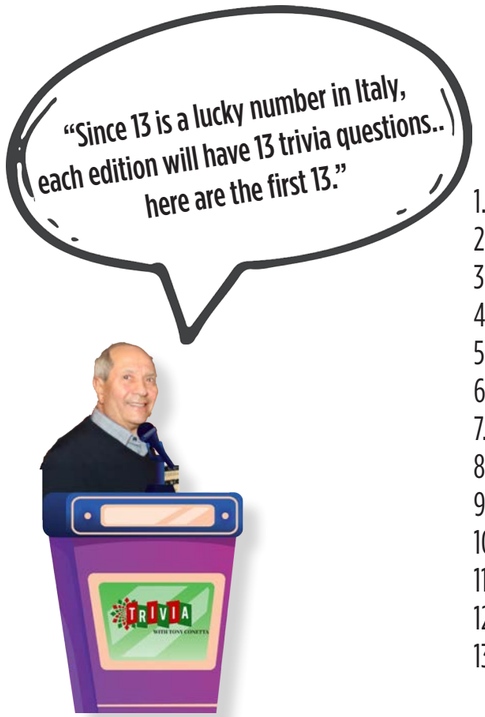
Fun Facts about Greenpoint, Brooklyn

By Anthony Abbicca



Greenpoint, Brooklyn is the setting for Anthony's book review on Nettie: Tales of a Brooklyn Nana and the list below adds some fun and interesting context.

1. Historically Polish, But Changing: Greenpoint has long been known as "Little Poland" due to its large Polish-American population, but it's now a diverse blend, with rising Italian, Latino, and artistic communities.
2. Italian-American Roots Exist Here Too: While not as Italian as nearby neighborhoods like Carroll Gardens or Bensonhurst, Greenpoint has had its share of Italian-American families, especially in the mid-20th century.
3. TV & Film Love Greenpoint: Shows like Girls, Blue Bloods, and parts of The Departed were filmed in Greenpoint. The ` streets double as stand-ins for various cities.
4. It Was Once Brooklyn's Shipbuilding Hub: In the 19th century, Greenpoint was a center for shipbuilding and industrial innovation.
5. Great Pizza Scene: Thanks to the Italian influence around Brooklyn, Greenpoint has some fantastic pizzerias—Di An Di, Paulie Gee's, and more.



TRIVIA
WITH TONY CONETTA

1. What is the Capital of Italy?
2. Who painted the Mona Lisa?
3. What is considered Italy's most popular sport?
4. What is Italy's longest river?
5. What is Italy's national food dish?
6. Who is Italy's Patron Saint?
7. What is the largest lake in Italy?
8. Who composed The Four Seasons?
9. What is the name of the Italian stock market?
10. What mountain ranges lies between Italy and France?
11. What is the name of the river that runs through Rome?
12. What is the largest island in the Mediterranean Sea?
13. Who was the emperor that ordered the construction of the Coliseum?

Answers located at bottom of following page.

A Recipe, a Story, and a Legacy of Love: Family, Food, and Memories

Written by Julie Cavallaro about her *nonna*, Atonietta Ardovini of John Michael Marino Lodge.



Every family has a recipe that feels like home. For Julie, Sundays belonged to her Nonna. The kitchen would come alive with the aroma of garlic sizzling in olive oil, onions caramelizing low and slow, and tomatoes simmering into a rich, velvety sauce.
Julie always asked, "How much, Nonna?" But Nonna would smile, touch her cheek, and whisper:

"Quanto basta."
(As much as it takes.)

It was never just about food—it was about love measured in patience, tradition, and togetherness.

Answers to Trivia With Tony

1. Rome.
2. Da Vinci
3. Soccer
4. Po
5. Pizza
6. St Francis of Assisi?
7. Lake Garda
8. Vivaldi
9. Boards Italiana
10. Alps
11. Tiber
12. Sicily
13. Vespasian

TRIVIA
WITH TONY CONETTA

Announcements and Info

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I hope that you had a great weekend. Once again thanks to everyone who was part of our successful 44th Annual Italian Festival. As a reminder our August Lodge General Meeting will be Wednesday September 17th at the Adult Activities Center in Port Washington. Dinner will be served starting at 6:45 PM and our meeting will start at 7:15 PM. If you are able to, please bring a dessert to share with the group.

At this meeting we will discuss the festival, the upcoming October events for the Italian Heritage and Culture month including performances, parades and cermonies, and the 100th Anniversary Dinner. After the meeting we are tentatively expecting Lodge member Sal Tatta to give a demo on making mozzarella and there will be samples!

The minutes from our last meeting are attached and will need to be approved at the meeting so please take a few minutes to review them.

Here are a few reminders and updates:
(There is a lot so please read carefully – it would be great if everyone could be involved and participate in the many things coming up)

Ports Got Talent:
Please support the Port's Got Talent entertainment performant at the Jeanne Rimsky Theatre in Port Washington on October 10th at 7:30 PM. This event supports the Port Washington Adult Activities Center operate and run events for our seniors. We use the building for our meetings so please support them. Tickets are $25 and will be sold at our meeting by Marianne Bortone Prince. See the attached flyer for detils or email Marianne at princem779@verizon.net.

John Michael Marino Lodge No. 1389 100th Anniversary Dinner Dance:
Thursday November 6th at the Fox Hollow - 100th Anniversary Diner Dance dedicated to the memory of Pvt. John Michael Marino and recognizing our past presidents. Invitations have gone out in the mail for the 100th Anniversary Dinner Dance please sign up as soon as possible to make it easier on the committee. Also please consider a journal ad and asking friends, family, and business associates to take journal ads too. We have great news - I was able to locate and contact Pvt. John Michael Marino's nephew, Anthony Marino, and he will be attending our event.

Gift of Sight and Committee for Social Justice:
We are looking for chairs and members to be part of the Gift of Sight and Committee for Social Justice groups. Both are amazing organizations that do great work for others, the Order, and for Italian Americans. Please consider helping out and leading or being a committee member. See me at the meeting if you are interested or send me a note if you are not able to attend the meeting and would like to participate.

John Michael Marino Foundation:
The charitable foundation (501(c)3 not for profit that is associated with our lodge has its annual director and advisor nominations coming up for elections in December. If you are interested in submitting an application for yourself or someone else, please contact Maria Cavallaro, Foundation President at mtc138@msn.com or me for an application or to answer any of your questions. This is an important part of our Lodge and is responsible for administering the funds of the foundation and setting processes and procedures to determine grants and scholarships.

Services for Tom Amato:
Following up on my email last week about the passing of former Lodge President Tom Amato, services will be at the Roslyn Heights Funeral Home at 75 Mineola Boulevard in Roslyn. Memorial visitation will be on Saturday November 8th from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM followed by a Prayer Service from 10:30 AM to 10:45 AM.

New Members: Please do your best to get new members to join our Lodge and participate in all the things we are doing. Let's get 50 new members for 2025 and receive the NYS Grand Lodge Award again!. Contact me or Marianne Prince if you need an application and we will get one to you.

If you know a member that does not have email access, please give them a call and let them know this information or print and give them a copy. Thanks everyone for reading and I hope to see you on Wednesday 9/17. Fraternally, Tony Cavallaro President John Michael Marino Lodge # 1389

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE

GARIBALDI-MEUCCI MUSEUM

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE OUR

37TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISER LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2025

12:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

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Biagio J. Isgro, Jr.

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Luanne Sorrentino

Co-Founder, The St. George Theatre

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RECEPTION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE LUNCHEON FOR THE OPENING OF "MICHELANGELO: GENIUS IN MARBLE AND FRESCO"

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"The mission of the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum, Staten Island, is: to collect, hold, own, maintain, preserve and exhibit historical objects and artifacts relating to the lives of General Giuseppe Garibaldi and Antonio Meucci; promote an understanding of Italian-American heritage and a positive image of Italian-Americans in the United States; and conduct educational, cultural and artistic programming designed to eliminate ethnic and racial prejudice for a diverse and growing audience."

I am pleased to become a member/renew my membership to the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum at the following level:

- ☐ **$25** Individual Donor
- ☐ **$75** Family Donor (4 or more family members residing at the same household address)
- ☐ **$100** Patron Donor
- ☐ **$250** Benefactor Donor - Includes GMM Journal B&W Full Page
- ☐ **$500** Silver Donor - Includes GMM Journal Silver Page
- ☐ **$750** Gold Donor - Includes 2 tickets to GMM Luncheon & GMM Journal Gold Page
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- ☐ Make a Donation $_____

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(necessary for email member mailings)

Membership Benefits

- Being a part of a historic National Landmark
- **Free general admission** to the museum during visiting hours: Wednesday – Saturday from 1pm-5pm (subject to change)
- Special invitations to **exclusive member only events**
- Half-price admissions to ***Giorno di Cultura Heritage Series*** of cultural events
- A **10% discount** on our Italian language classes
- A **10% discount** on museum gift shop merchandise

Thank you for supporting the museum and helping to *"Preserve the Past for the Future."*

Please return this membership application form to:
Garibaldi-Meucci Museum
420 Tompkins Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10305

revised

Columbus Day Weekend Parade Info

District I & II Columbus Day Parade in **Deer Park** on **Saturday October 11th**

Details and Transportation: We will meet at the Port Washington Branch of the LIRR on Saturday at 9:00am and carpool to the parade meet point. The Parade meet point is the Deer Park Lake Avenue Firehouse - 94 Lake Avenue in Deer Park. Directions will be provided for each carpool driver, along with a parking pass.

Breakfast will be provided at 11:00am, followed by the program at 12:00pm at the Firehouse

Parade start time is 1:00pm. Post Parade festivities will take place at the Brumidi Lodge - 2075 Deer Park Avenue, Deer Park (which is the end of the parade route)

RSVP: If you are planning toi participate, please contact Marianne Bortone Prince at 718 631-7917 or text her at 718 757-9813.

ATTIRE: The dress attire is red jacket and white shirt/blouse. Black slacks/skirts are permissible in place of white slacks/skirts. If you are not in possession of a red jacket, do not let that prevent you from participating.

New York City Columbus Day Parade on **Monday, October 13th**

Details and Transportation: The Grand Lodge of New York has arranged bus transportation to and from New York City at no charge to our members. We have been allotted 12 seats on the bus, and I reserved all 12. A box lunch and beverage will be provided at no charge during the return trip.

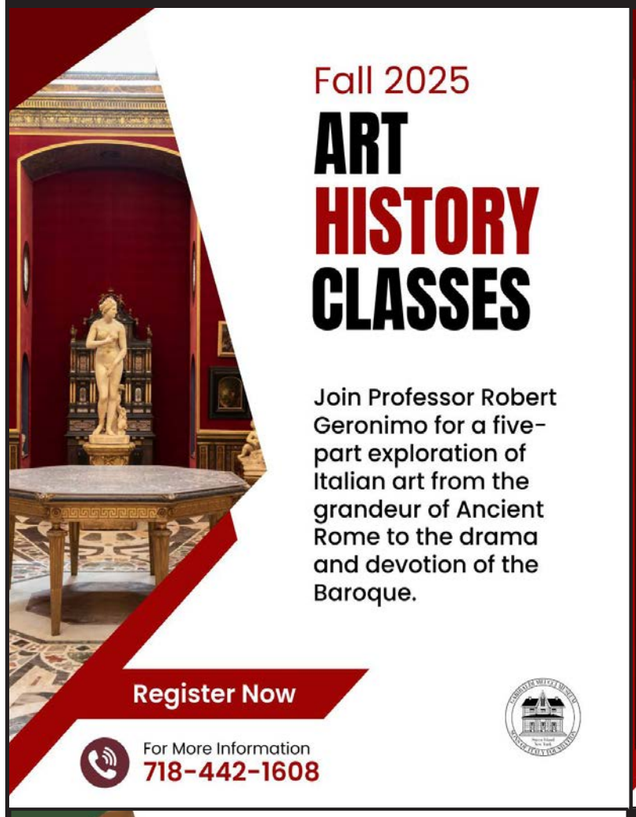
The bus boarding stop is at 9:30am at Christopher Morley Park, located on Searingtown Road in Roslyn. The return stop will also be made at Christopher Morley Park at approximately 4:00pm.

RSVP: Please RSVP to Marianne Bortone Prince by 10/17 and advise of your intention to participate. You can also contact me Marianne at 718 631-7917 or text at 718 757-9813.

Attire: The dress attire is red jacket and white shirt/blouse. Black slacks/skirts are permissible in place of white slacks/skirts. If you are not in possession of a red jacket, do not let that prevent you from participating. A red sweater/shirt/blouse is fine.



100th Ad


Did you know the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum offers lecture series and language classes?
Fall 2025
ART
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Join Professor Robert Geronimo for a five-part exploration of Italian art from the grandeur of Ancient Rome to the drama and devotion of the Baroque.
Register Now
For More Information
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Fall 2025
OPERA
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This 5-session class will elicit an appreciation for both seasoned opera lovers and newcomers alike.
The 5 classes will meet every other Tuesday
Register Now
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Fall 2025
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Join us for a ten-week journey into the Italian language—offered at four different levels, from beginner to advanced—designed to build conversation skills, cultural understanding, and a deeper connection to Italy's rich traditions.
Register Now
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