



SGT. FREDERICK M. BONANNO LODGE #2549

The friendliest lodge in Florida

Save the Date: Thursday, Mar 12, 2026

THURSDAY
March 12th, 2026

Celebrating
St Joseph and
St Patrick

WHERE: Dr. Andre Fladell
Civic Center

16500 Jog Road
Delray Beach, FL 33483

TIME: 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Arrive by 6:15pm to check-in

Meeting Fee: Members and Guests - \$15

RSVP TO: Joan - (561) 414-1825

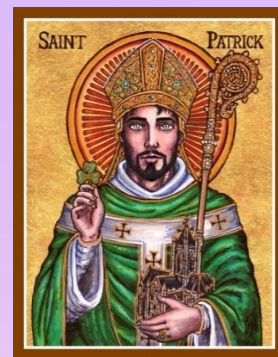
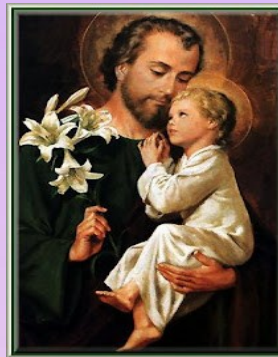
**MUST RSVP and pay before March 4th
for head count**

**NO PAYMENT/CHECKS
WILL BE ACCEPTED AT CHECK IN**

PAYMENT: Zelle is preferred... please
Zelle to sgtbonannobr@hotmail.com to
confirm your reservation.

Or send a check for arrival before March
4th. Make check payable to Sgt Bonanno
Lodge, and mail to:

Sgt Bonanno Lodge #2549
PO Box 970101
Boca Raton, FL 33497-0101



We will be serving
Antipasto and Bread
Catered by Chef Dominic

and

Sfingi di San Giuseppe

Courtesy of the lodge

Drinks: Sodas, Water, Coffee and Tea

Family and Friends are Welcome

**MUST RSVP before March
4th for food head count**

Invite Your friends and introduce them to our Sons and Daughters of Italy Family!





MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Robert M. Ianniello

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As your newly elected President, I would like to thank everyone for your support of the newly elected officers and trustees. We will work together to provide a friendly and productive atmosphere that is responsive to your desires, fiscally responsible, and adherent to the mission of the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America.

After an enjoyable St. Valentine / Show the Love meeting, we have scheduled a celebration of St. Joseph and St. Patrick for our March 12 meeting. The event will be catered by Chef Dominic and will include antipasto and bread (a favorite at our Christmas party) and Sfingi Di Santo Giuseppe (courtesy of the lodge). Please invite your friends and family. Payment will be \$15 for all but be sure to notify Joan of you attendance on or before March 4 so that we have an accurate headcount. Payment will also be due by March 4 via check or Zelle. No payment / checks will be accepted at check-in.

I also want to highlight some initiatives your Board is planning. We will begin to schedule luncheons and dinners during the year (in addition to our summer lunch/dinner events) to promote member interaction. Our Vice President Joan is currently planning an early dinner at Agli Olio in Boynton Beach on March 22. Additional events (concerts, bus trips) are also being investigated. We had a very productive first meeting with the Italian American Heritage Society of Boca Raton to foster interaction and plan joint events and bocce.

We will schedule speakers on a variety of topics during the year, insuring that subjects of interest to the membership are covered. Your feedback on this is strongly encouraged.

Finally, based on our updated bylaws, our committees will be redefined and require your help for chair and member positions. Your help here is critical to the success of our lodge.

Once again, thank you for your support. I look forward to the continued growth and positive impact of our lodge on its members, the Order, and the local community.

Sincerely yours,

Bob Ianniello

OFFICERS & COMMITTEES CHAIRPERSONS

Bonanno Officers

President: Robert "Bob" Ianniello (732) 778-0764
 Vice President: Joan D'Amato
 Financial Secretary: Jim Episcopio
 Recording Secretary: Dawn Chase
 Treasurer: Vincent Como
 Immediate Past President: Wendy Corso-Ruud
 Chaplain: Father Adam Forno
 Orator/Consigliere: Edmondo Catania
 Trustees: * Amilia Chase * Ginny DeMattei
 * Gene Costanzo * Mike Schippani
 * Joe D'Amato *Anthony Yazzetti

Italian Cultural Historian: Joan D'Amato

Committees

Events/Speakers: Bob Ianniello/Joan D'Amato
 House: Bob Ianniello
 Newsletter: Bob Ianniello
 Scholarship: Eugene Costanzo
 Sunshine: Ginny De Mattei
 501C3 Fundraising: Ed Catania / Vincent Como
 Website: Ginny De Mattei
 Photographer: Francesca Nelson

Bonanno Officers Grand Lodge of Florida

President GL Florida: Joe Dente
 1st VP GL Florida: Nick Cantore
 State Trustee-Region VII: Greg Bianchini
 State Deputy: Edmondo Catania

PRESIDENT MESSAGE TRANSLATION

Cari fratelli e sorelle,

Come vostro nuovo Presidente eletto, vorrei ringraziare tutti per il vostro sostegno ai nuovi dirigenti e fiduciari eletti. Lavoreremo insieme per offrire un'atmosfera amichevole e produttiva, che risponda ai vostri desideri, e che sia finanziariamente responsabile e aderente alla missione dell'Ordine Figli e Figlie d'Italia in America.

Dopo un piacevole incontro di San Valentino / Show the Love, abbiamo programmato una celebrazione di San Giuseppe e San Patrizio per il nostro incontro del 12 marzo. L'evento sarà curata dallo chef Dominic e includerà antipasto e pane (uno dei preferiti della nostra festa di Natale). Invitate amici e famigliari. Il costo sarà di 15 dollari per tutti, ma assicuratevi di avvisare Joan della vostra presenza entro il 4 marzo in modo da avere un conteggio accurato. Il pagamento dovrà essere inoltre dovuto entro il 4 marzo tramite assegno o Zelle. Non saranno accettati assegni di pagamento al momento del check-in.

Voglio anche evidenziare alcune iniziative che il vostro Consiglio sta pianificando. Inizieremo a programmare pranzi e cene durante l'anno (oltre ai nostri eventi pranzi/cena estivi) per promuovere l'interazione tra i soci. La nostra Vicepresidente Joan sta attualmente pianificando una cena anticipata all'AgliOlio di Boynton Beach il 22 marzo. Stiamo inoltre indagando su ulteriori eventi (concerti, viaggi in autobus). Abbiamo avuto un primo incontro molto produttivo con la Italian American Heritage Society di Boca Raton per favorire l'interazione e pianificare eventi congiunti e bocce.

Programmeremo relatori su una varietà di argomenti durante l'anno, assicurandoci che vengano trattati gli argomenti di interesse per i membri. Il vostro feedback su questo è fortemente incoraggiato.

Infine, in base ai nostri regolamenti aggiornati, i nostri comitati saranno ridefiniti e richiederanno il vostro aiuto per le posizioni di presidente e membri. Il vostro aiuto qui è fondamentale per il successo della nostra loggia.

Ancora una volta, grazie per il vostro supporto. Non vedo l'ora di vedere una continua crescita e l'impatto positivo della nostra loggia sui suoi soci, sull'Ordine e sulla comunità locale.

Cordialmente vostro,

Bob Ianniello

Presidente



SGT FM Bonanno
Lodge #2549

ORDER
Sons and Daughters of Italy
IN AMERICA

SEE YOUR AD HERE!
BE SEEN BY OUR MEMBERSHIP
AND BEYOND

SUNDAY

March 22th, 2026

Our First in season

Dinner Event for 2026



WHERE: Agliolio – a Fresh Take on Italian
2258 N. Congress Avenue
Boynton Beach, FL 33426

Serving Their Special Event Menu

House or Caesar salad, garlic bread, homemade pasta, choice of sauce and toppings, choice of egg-plant rollatini, chicken marsala, or shrimp parmigiana, homemade zeppoles and cannoli chips

TIME: 3:00 PM

Family and Friends are Welcome

Fee: Members and Guests - \$40pp

MUST RSVP before March 19th for food head count

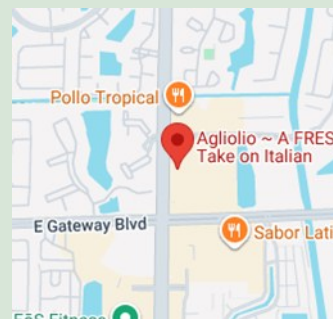
RSVP TO: Joan - (561) 414-1825
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No payment will be accepted at the door

PAYMENT: Zelle is preferred... please Zelle to sgtbonannobr@hotmail.com to confirm your reservation.

Or send a check for arrival before March 19th. Make check payable to Sgt Bonanno Lodge, and mail to:

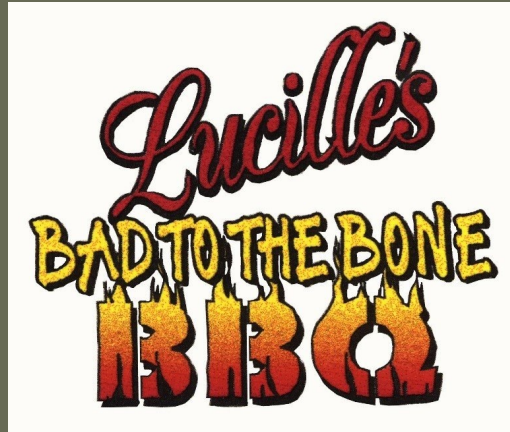
Sgt Bonanno Lodge #2549
PO Box 970101
Boca Raton, FL 33497-0101



COMING UP

April 9

General Business Meeting



Lucille's Family Feast

Served with corn muffins and BBQ sauce



Details to follow

COMING UP

May 14

Member Appreciation Night



Details to follow

EVENT FUN & FOTOS

Attached are some photos (courtesy of Francesca Nelson) of the Installation ceremony for our new Officers and Trustees



BOCCE THURSDAYS

Our Bonanno Bocce Team meets every Thursday morning to enjoy a gathering of players of the game at the Dr. Andre Fladell Civic Center



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MEMBER EVENTS & FUN TIMES

Bonanno Cruise on the Celebrity Eclipse



MEMBER EVENTS & FUN TIMES

Bonanno Cruise on the Celebrity Eclipse



DREAM TRIPPIN' TRAVEL

DREAMS TO DESTINATIONS

February 11, 2026

Dear Joan and the Brothers and Sisters of the Sgt. F.M. Bonanno Lodge,

On behalf of Dream Trippin Travel, I would like to sincerely thank you for entrusting me with the opportunity to plan and coordinate your recent trip. It was truly an honor to work with your organization and to help create an experience that brought everyone together.

Your trust and confidence in my business mean more than you know. I deeply appreciate the opportunity to serve your group and to be part of something that supports such a meaningful organization.

It is with great pleasure that I present a donation in the amount of **\$2,200** back to the Sgt. F.M. Bonanno Lodge. This contribution represents not only the success of the trip but also the spirit of partnership and community that made it possible. I am grateful that Dream Trippin Travel can give back in a way that supports the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy and what we strive as an organization to achieve.

Thank you again for allowing me to be part of your journey. I look forward to working together again in the future and creating even more memorable experiences.

With sincere appreciation,

ITALIAN STUDIES AT FAU

Events at FAU

Florida Atlantic Italian Program
February 16 & 17, 2026
ITALIAN AMERICAN FILM AND CULTURE FESTIVAL
 Italian Foodways from the Old to the New Country



Monday Feb. 16, 7 PM
 PA101
Screening
Feast of the Seven Fishes
 (2019)
 Followed by Q&A with
 director Robert Tinnell led
 by Manuela Filomena,
 PhD student

Tuesday Feb. 17, 7 PM
 PA101
Lecture
Italian Food as a Muse
 with author and
 journalist,
Andrew Cotto



Andrew Cotto
 2025 Awardee

Tuesday Feb. 17, 10 AM
Virtual visit
Museo Emigrazione
Italiana in Genova
 (for zoom link:
ilaria.serra@fau.edu)



Cucina Romana
 Another Italian Adventure



PASTA MIKE
A Story of Friendship & Love
 by Andrew Cotto



Cucina Tipica
 An Italian Adventure

Mark Shaw
 Photography

IT'S FANTASTICO

Dear students,
 We are **Ilaria Serra** and **Emanuele Pettener**,
 your Italian professors. We are from Venice.






With **Mary, Alessio, Arianna, Valentina and Manuela**,
 we are your teachers of Italian. Teaching our language and culture is our passion.



As our students you truly become part
 of a family
 we even have *zii e nonni* who help us with
 scholarships, and... **cook** for us!

In our classes you learn our beautiful language, and explore a new culture with
 songs, film and literature, videos, podcasts, TikTok, festivals, delicious food...
 We invite you to travel to Italy with us in the summer:
 to **Venice** (6-week program) and to a wonderful **Tuscan Castle** (one weekend).

Google FAU ITALIAN
 for alumni's voices, **SCHOLARSHIPS, INTERNSHIPS** for teaching English in Italy,
 Study Abroad in Venice, Research Camp in a Tuscan Castle, Italian Club Internship
 activities (conversations, movie nights, Karaoke, beach festival...) and
 so many other opportunities you can't even imagine.
Vi aspettiamo!







ITALIANO



SULL'OCEANO

SET SAIL FOR OUR 2ND ANNUAL

Join **ILARIA** and **EMANUELE**
 for 4 unforgettable days of
 immersive **ITALIAN LESSONS**,
 including:

- Italian **History**
- Engaging **Lectures**
- Vibrant **Cultural Insights**



Whether you're a beginner or brushing up your skills,
 you'll dive into real Italian language learning and
 have fun while doing it. Your journey begins now.

DATES: March 8 - 12, 2027
SAILING ABOARD: Oasis of the Seas
DEPARTING FROM: Fort Lauderdale
DESTINATIONS: At Sea, Nassau, Perfect Day
 at Coco Cay

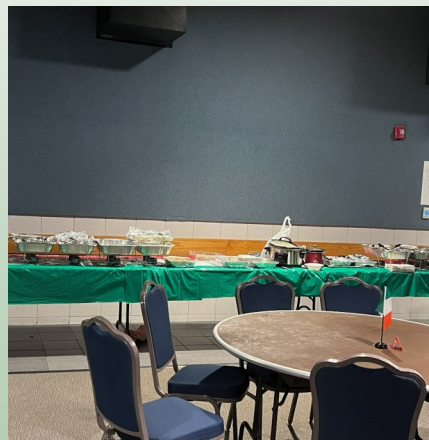
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ITALIAN STUDIES AT FAU

8th Annual Nonne Night January 15, 2026

Attached are some photos depicting our very successful 8th Annual Nonne Night. FAU Students, Family, Friends, and Faculty attended along with our lodge membership and officials from the Grand Lodge of Florida to enjoy home cooked Italian dishes and entertainment provided by the students. Professor Ilaria Serra accepted donations from the Grand Lodge of Florida President Joe Dente and Sgt. F. M. Bonanno President Wendy Corso-Ruud and Orator Edmondo Catania in support of the Italian Studies program.



ITALIAN QUOTES & SAYINGS

“Dietro ogni problema c’è un’opportunità”

Behind every problem, there is an opportunity

Galileo Galilei

“Una mano lava l’altra e tutte e due lavano il viso”

One hand washes the other, and both wash the face

Old Italian Proverb

BUON COMPLEANNI

Marzo

6	Ginny DeMattei
10	Margaret Esposito
19	Wendy Corso-Ruud
22	Joan Marinaro
22	Amelia Massari
22	Michael Schippani
30	Enrico Marini

Robert M. Ianniello, Ph.D.

Principal

ianniello1@outlook.com

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BE SEEN BY OUR MEMBERSHIP AND BEYOND



SEMPRE AVANTI

By Gene Costanzo, Scholarship Chair

SGT BONANNO LODGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES

ANNOUNCEMENT: THE EPISCOPIO 4-YEAR SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY INFORMATION AND APPLICATIONS WILL BE OUT JANUARY! See page 16!



RULES FOR FUTURE REGULAR BONANNO SCHOLARSHIPS:

1. Member must be in good standing and a member for at least one year.
2. Applicant must be a graduating high school senior who **must be the child or grandchild of a member** and be selected *in writing* to a College/University.
3. Apply January 1st through March 30, 2026, and submit to the Scholarship chairperson.
4. We give two Scholarships per Year. If more applicant's apply, they will need to submit an essay to be approved by our scholarship committee.
5. The applicant must present the acceptance letter and information, and we will forward the funds to the College administration office listed on the letter.
6. Maximum scholarship \$500 each.
7. Any questions, please call your President or Scholarship Chair.



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✉ drmitchghen@gmail.com
☎ Main: 561-674-0555
☎ Fax: 561-613-6092

SEE YOUR AD HERE!

**BE SEEN BY OUR MEMBERSHIP AND
BEYOND**

SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIP

ANNOUNCING THE ANTHONY AND ROSEMARIE EPISCOPIO COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP



Are YOU Ready for College?

The Sgt FM Bonanno Lodge #2549 is proud to announce the **2026 Anthony and Rosemarie Episcopio College Scholarship** for outstanding high school senior students of Italian descent

SGT F.M. Bonanno Boca Raton, FL.
Lodge 2549

College Scholarship Opportunity

The Sgt FM Bonanno Lodge # 2549 is proud to announce the **2026 Anthony and Rosemarie Episcopio College Scholarship** for outstanding high school senior students of Italian descent!

The Anthony and Rosemarie Episcopio College Scholarship is an \$8,000 scholarship. A deserving student will receive \$2,000 every year for four years.

Scholarship Sponsor - James Episcopio

Application Window opens from January 1st, 2026 and closes on March 31st, 2026.
The Scholarship Winner will be selected by May 31st, 2026.

HOW TO APPLY

Please send an email to James Episcopio at jimmyepi1982@gmail.com to request scholarship criteria and your application form. Write **SCHOLARSHIP** in the Subject Line.

DO NOT miss this opportunity to **celebrate your heritage** and your academic excellence!

Please send an email to James Episcopio at jimmyepi1982@gmail.com to request the scholarship criteria and an application form. Write **SCHOLARSHIP** in the Subject Line.



SCHOLARSHIP

FINANCIAL NEWS

Which way will you retire?

The Cliff Diver Retirer
Employed on Friday.
Retired by Monday.

The Gradual Retirer
Reduced workload over time.

The Never Retirer
You like or need to work
and don't plan to stop.



Retirement is one word but it involves many financial decisions that put your money on a mission. You only retire once so the decisions you'll encounter will be first-time decisions. Will you make a costly mistake?

Discovery	Financial Plan	Investment Strategy	Insurance Review
Social Security	Use Home Equity?	Long Term Care	Medicare Plans
Widow(er)hood		Leaving a Legacy	

Let our knowledge and experience be your retirement advantage.



360° Financial Advice



Customized Strategies to Improve Your Life

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2700 N Military Trail • Suite 220 • Boca Raton, Florida • 33431

Nick Cantore/Wealth Manager
Cell 954.401.9410

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BULLETIN BOARD

The Floridian

To enjoy our Florida Grand Lodge newsletter, please go online to <https://osiaflorida.org/news>

Advertise in our newsletter for 12 months

Business card:	\$ 50
Half Page:	\$ 75
Full Page:	\$125
ADD TO WEBSITE	\$ 50 ADDITIONAL

Annual Dues for 2026

Membership Dues are payable by the first of every year. Please make note of the dues:

Individual:	\$ 60.00
Couple:	\$110.00
Social:	\$ 60.00

Membership Payment Schedule



REVAMPED: Member dues will now be paid annually by January 1st. If not paid by the end of January, there will be a reinstatement fee added to your membership dues, so please be ready to pay on time. In September, dues are reduced to \$30. You will be reminded starting October, to pay for and hold your membership fee (in Oct, Nov and Dec) to pay the regular annual dues for the next year.

Lodge Information

Lodge Meetings are held at 6:30pm, the **second Thursday of every month**. We meet at the Dr. Andre Fladell Civic Center at 16700 Jog Road, north of Clint Moore Rd in Delray Beach.

In May we hold our last business meeting, then break for the Summer and hold social gatherings/luncheons June, July, and August.

SCHOLARSHIPS

For any member who has a *child or grandchild* planning on attending College and would like to apply, Sgt. Bonanno Lodge has at least one \$500 scholarship available, which will be sent directly to the College where they've been accepted. Please talk to us for more information. Caveat: Members must be in good standing. Contact Gene

Past Lodge Presidents

Edmondo Catania, Joan D'Amato, J. Nick Cantore, Marie Ruggiero, Wendy Corso-Ruud, Ed Mottola, Jr., Peter Ocello, Steve Petrarca, John Polli, William Santangelo, Peter Vallone, Frank Benedetto, Carlo Boniello, John Boniello, and Rosemary Boniello.

Lodge Meeting Rules

Our meetings at our new venue have been running smoothly. Our meeting rules are as follows: remember to please be on time and get checked-in before entering the meeting at our welcome table, so we can record your attendance.

Please be courteous and respond to our events in a courteous and timely manner. Take note that many events have **deadlines**, especially when making arrangements for food. We plan events with an accurate number of members who will attend.



If there are fees for an event, we prefer you pay thru ZELLE online, but if not, to send a check **by the deadline** to the Bonanno Lodge.

Facebook: [click here https://www.facebook.com/frederick.bonanno.lodge2549/](https://www.facebook.com/frederick.bonanno.lodge2549/)

Website: [click here www.osdiaboca.org](http://www.osdiaboca.org)

LA VOCE DI BOCA RATON

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY:
SGT BONANNO LODGE #2549
ORDER SONS AND DAUGHTERS
OF ITALY IN AMERICA
EMAIL OS DIAFLBOCA@GMAIL.COM



GRAPHIC DESIGN & EDITING BY:
ROBERT IANNIELLO

MANAGEMENT & DISTRIBUTION BY:
GINNY DE MATTEI

NEWSLETTER CREATED IN 2013