

# NIESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

## Wendy Corso-Ruud

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

"May is the month of expectation, the month of wishes, the month of hope."

I expect, I wish, and I hope you are all doing great! April has been busy, with life, love, and family, now let's hope May is a little bit calmer, smoother and brings plenty of peace to all!

We celebrated for the first time Easter BRINNER (combining the two meals of Breakfast and Dinner) at our April meeting. There were so many wonderful 'chef' members who brought their favourite breakfast foods to share, and everyone enjoyed the many varieties of deliciousness offered, see photos on page 3).

Our special Guest Speaker, Charles DiVita, gave a heartwarming talk as an author in search of his Sicilian family roots, and shared an amazing PowerPoint showing the adventures of finding distant family members in Italia over the last ten years.

Speaking of adventures, our friend and OSDIA sister, Jenn Santos, of Dream Trippin Travel, gave details on our OSDIA/Bonanno Lodge's Celebrity ECLIPSE Cruise in January 2026 and answered members' questions. This is sure to be a wonderful journey on the seas!

At our May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will be celebrating Mother's Day and serving Porchetta dinner from **Doris's Italian Market**. We will be playing the very entertaining bingo-ish card game of "Show Me the Money" hosted by our Vinny Como.

The Florida Grand Lodge Convention is at the end of May in Orlando, and several of your officers and members will serve as delegates representing our Sgt Bonanno Lodge. We will be bringing back important information to share with our members.

In Membership news, we have 95 members. Starting in October, then November, we will be sending out renewal notices, as 2026 Memberships must be paid by January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026. There will be a reinstatement charge if paid after Jan 31.

We will hold Summertime Socials in June, July, and August, so stay tuned for dates and locations! Then we come back to business on September 11<sup>th</sup>. If you need a ride to the meetings, need help in any other way, or need to talk, PLEASE let us know! We cannot stress enough that we are here to help you, because we are family... and that's what family does! It's an unconditional kind of love, so let us know!

If you have questions, stories to share, any issues or problems, please give me a call at 561-715-1361.

Joan D'Amato

With love and hugs,

Wendy

### Cari fratelli e sorelle,

### "Maggio è il mese dell'attesa, il mese dei desideri, il mese della speranza".

Mi aspetto, desidero e spero che stiate tutti bene! Aprile è stato un mese pieno di impegni, tra vita, amore e famiglia, ora speriamo che maggio sia un po' più calmo, più sereno e porti tanta pace a tutti!

Abbiamo celebrato per la prima volta il BRINNER di Pasqua (che combina i due pasti, colazione e cena) al nostro incontro di aprile. C'erano tantissimi fantastici "chef" che hanno portato i loro piatti preferiti per la colazione da condividere, e tutti hanno apprezzato le numerose varietà di prelibatezze offerte.

Il nostro relatore d'eccezione, Charles DiVita, ha tenuto un toccante discorso in qualità di autore alla ricerca delle sue radici familiari siciliane e ha condiviso una straordinaria presentazione PowerPoint che mostrava le avventure degli ultimi dieci anni alla ricerca di parenti lontani in Italia. A proposito di avventure, la nostra amica e sorella, Jenn Santos, di Dream Trippin Travel, ha fornito dettagli sulla crociera Celebrity ECLIPSE della nostra OSDIA/Bonanno Lodge a gennaio 2026 e ha risposto alle domande dei soci. Sarà sicuramente un viaggio meraviglioso! Nel mare!

Al nostro incontro dell'8 maggio, festeggeremo la Festa della Mamma e serviremo una cena di porchetta del Doris's Italian Market. Giocheremo all'esilarante gioco di carte "Show Me the Money", simile a un bingo, presentato dal nostro Vinny Como.

La Convention della Florida Grand Lodge si terrà a fine maggio a Orlando e diversi dei vostri ufficiali e soci saranno delegati in rappresentanza della nostra Sgt. Bonanno Lodge. Riporteremo informazioni importanti da condividere con i nostri soci. Per quanto riguarda le novità relative agli iscritti, abbiamo 95 iscritti e vi abbiamo comunicato che a partire da ottobre e novembre invieremo gli avvisi di rinnovo, poiché le quote associative per il 2026 devono essere pagate entro il 1° gennaio 2026. Verrà applicata una penale per i pagamenti effettuati dopo il 31 gennaio.

Organizzeremo incontri sociali estivi a giugno, luglio e agosto, guindi rimanete sintonizzati per date e sedi! Poi torneremo operativi l'11 settembre. Se avete bisogno di un passaggio per le riunioni, di aiuto in qualsiasi altro modo o di parlare, PER FAVORE fatecelo sapere! Non ci stancheremo mai di ripetere che siamo qui per aiutarvi, perché siamo una famiglia... ed è questo che fa una famiglia! È un amore incondizionato, quindi fatecelo sapere!

Se avete domande, storie da condividere, qualsiasi problema o problema, contattatemi al numero 561-715-1361. Con amore e abbracci, Wendy

This message was translated using GOOGLE TRANSLATE for those who like to read and/or dabble in the language.. if you would like to help translate, please step up!

### OFFICERS & COMMITTEES CHAIRPERSONS

### **Bonanno Officers**

President: Vice President: Financial Secretary: **Recording Secretary:** Treasurer: Immediate Past President: Chaplain: Orator/Consigliere: Trustees:

Wendy Corso-Ruud (561)715-1361 Robert "Bob" Ianniello Larry Danza Anika Ruud-Santry Ginny De Mattei Edmondo Catania Father Adam Forno Edmondo Catania \* Vincent Como \* Gene Costanzo \* Joan D'Amato \* Joe D'Amato \* Jim Episcopio \* Lydia Marini \* Anthony Yazzetti

Events: House: Newsletter: Scholarship: Sunshine: 501C3 Fundraising: Website:

Committees

### **Bonanno Officers Grand Lodge of Florida**

President GL Florida: 1st VP GL Florida: State Trustee-Region VII: State Deputy: **Honorary Member** 

Wendy Corso-Ruud **Bob** Ianniello Wendy Corso-Ruud Eugene Costanzo Ginny De Mattei Ed Catania / Vincent Como Ginny De Mattei

Joe Dente Nick Cantore Edmondo Catania

Greg Esposito

Edward Mottola

### Italian Cultural Historian:





Several members enjoyed an afternoon of dance at the LA COPPELIA BALLET by the Boca Raton Ballet Theatre organized by our Anthony Yazzetti.



Thursday, April 10, we came together to celebrate our Italian Heritage with a wonderful guest speaker, Charles DiVita, who has documented his amazing journey of finding his Italian roots over the last 10 years.

We also had the lovely Jenn Santos, of Dream Trippin Travel, share the details of a great group CRUISE on the Celebrity Eclipse for our members and friends, in January 2026 (see page 4)



Spaghetti Pie, Pizza Rustica, and Veggie Quiche

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed our very first Potluck of "Easter Breakfast for Dinner" or BRINNER, which included many traditional Italian breakfast foods. Three beautifully handmade Pizza Rusticas were generously donated by **Chef Luciano Balzano of IL TARTUFO Ristorante** along with **4 Dozen Bagels donated by Jodi and Yale of LONG ISLAND BAGEL**. The variety of foods was incredible: the pizza rustica, quiches, muffins, oatmeal, spaghetti pie, strata, chicken and waffles, danishes.. so much deliciousness!





# EVENT FUN & FOTOS

In January 2026, from the 25th thru the 31th, we will be embarking on a **Celebrity Eclipse** adventure on the open seas! Our friend, fellow OSDIA sister, and travel agent, **Jenn Santos**, of Dream Trippin Travel, shared details and took questions from our members at our meeting.

Sounds like a blast is coming up on this great group CRUISE!! Send in your deposit now to set sail with us! Call Jenn for more information (772)262-0251

# **LA DOLCE VELA**

### (The Sweet Sail)

Join us as we embark on the Celebrity Eclipse with The Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America while supporting the charities

and scholarships of the Sgt. Bonanno Lodge. Enjoy luxurious amenities and exquisite dining, and explore stunning ports. Don't forget to invite your friends and family.



January 25<sup>th</sup> - January 31<sup>st</sup> 2026

Roundtrip Fort Lauderdale. Ports in Grand Cayman, Cozumel and Key West.

### Price per double occupancy.

Interior Cabin - \$2641 Ocean View - \$3151

Verandah - \$3461

**Inclusions:** Port fees, taxes, tips, classic beverage package, wifi and a \$50 OBC.

**Refundable Deposit** - \$500 deposit is refundable until October 15, 2025. Must book to hold cabin by May 15, 2025.

Final Payment Due: October 15, 2025

Optional Insurance is \$109/person for FL Residents. NY residents require 3<sup>rd</sup> Party

QUESTIONS OR TO BOOK CONTACT – JENN SANTOS JENNSANTOS@DREAMTRIPPINTRAVEL.COM 772-262-0251





# FALIAN STUDIES AT FAU

Ilaria Serra and Emanuele Pettener, of the FAU Italian Studies Department, have so many amazing events and workshops and symposiums being offered that it's hard to pick and choose which to attend! Many are open to the public, and our members have been busy enjoying so many special speakers! We invite you to come in the future!

Giovani Agnoloni spoke about Travels and Translations at FAU and then also joined us at our weekly Italian Language Meet UP!







Itanglish (sost.)

Quando your cervello starts mescolare words senza thinking, perché switching lingue is totally normale, ma actually nobody capisce anything.



FAU Italian Book Club run by Ilaria Serra and Melania discussing "Chi dice e chi tace" di Chiara Valerio (Sellerio Editore, 2024) .. Stay tuned for the next book and date in September.



Weekly Italian Language meet up where we try to speak ONLY in Italian! Every Thursday at Whole Foods, BOCA.









Italian Gestures Ambassador Luca Vullo from Sicilia demonstrating so many Italian 'signs' to the audience!! What a wonderfully fun evening at FAU's outdoor classroom!





# BOCCI THURDAYS

From Edmondo Catania: Our weekly bocce game last Thursday was an amazing celebration of just being Italian. GRAZIE a **Augusto Cavallini**, immediate Past President, and **Paolo Mangia**, current President, of Miami Casa Italia/ CONI.it, and **Ilaria Serra**, of the FAU Italian Studies Department and Comparative Literature Studies. Big thanks to our Bonanno players and supporters!



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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

If you wish to announce a special event, please send your Information to me no later than the 20th of each month.

JANUARY 2026 - note 2026 date			FEBRUARY 2026 - note 2026 date	
8 25-31	Nonne Night/ FAU Club Insieme - POTLUCK Dinner MEMBERSHIP DRIVE Celebrity ECLIPSE Cruise	12	Meeting Valentine's Day	
MARCH 2026 - note 2026 date		APRIL 2026 - note 2026 date		
12	Meeting St Joseph's / St Patrick's	9	Meeting Easter breakfast	
MAY 2025			JUNE 2025	
8	Meeting Mother's Day - Porchetta Night SHOW ME THE MONEY Game	TBD	Luncheon or Dinner	
JULY 2025		AUGUST 2025		
TBD	Luncheon or Dinner	TBD	Luncheon or Dinner	
SEPTEMBER 2025			OCTOBER 2025	
11	First Business Meeting - Welcome Back Members Appreciation	09	Italian Heritage Night	
NOVEMBER 2025			DECEMBER 2025	
13	Salute to Veterans / Giving Thanks	11	Annual Christmas Party Christmass Party	

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# EAMOUS ITALLAN QUOTES



# SAVE THE DATES

# Monthly Meeting Schedule for 2024 - 2025

Thursday Evenings 6:30pm at the ELKS Lodge (til Feb!)

- September 12 Business Meeting Potluck
- October 10 Italian Heritage
- November 14 Veteran Appreciation / Forgotten Soldier Program
- December 6 Christmas Party
- January 9, 2025 Nonna Night / Membership Drive
- February 13 Show the Love / Member Appreciation / Forgotten
  Soldier Items Collection
  - February 16 Picnic at the Park Morikami Pavillion
  - March 13 St Joseph's / St Patrick's IN OUR NEW PLACE!!
    - April 10 Easter BRINNER
      - Porchetta Night Mother's Day
- June/July/August Summer Luncheons / Dinners

We will be planning different venues for our enjoyment this year and we would like your ideas and suggestions. Additional details to follow on each date. Preferred Method of Payment for Membership, Meetings, and Events is Zelle. Zelle: **sgtbonanno@yahoo.com** or send a check.



# SEMPRE AVANTI

By Gene Costanzo, Scholarship Chair

# SGT BONANNO LODGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES

WE AWARDED TWO SCHOLARSHIPS TO GRANDCHILDREN OF MEMBERS THIS YEAR!

May 8

## **RULES FOR FUTURE:**

- Member must be in good standing. and a member for at least one year.
- Applicant *must be the* child or grandchild of a *member* and been

selected in writing to a College/University.

- Apply no later than March 30, 2026, submit to the Membership 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 fund to the administration office listed on the letter.

- 6. Maximum scholarship \$500 each.
- Any questions, please call your President or Scholarship Chair.







# FINANCIAL NEWS

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Tel 561-241-5488. Feb-2022 43761

# BULLETIN BOARD

# Please Take Note

If you find mistakes in our publication, PLEASE consider they are there for a purpose... remember that we publish something for everyone, because some people are always looking for misteaks! EC

# The Floridian

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

### Advertise in our newsletter for 12 months!

\$ 50
\$ 75
\$125
\$ 50 ADDITIONAL



# Annual Dues for 2025

Dues are payable and should be paid the first of every year. Please make note of the small increase:

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



# Membership Payment Schedule

Member dues are paid annually every January. In September, dues are reduced to \$30, with the option to pay for the remainder of the year or pay the annual dues for the next year and have the last Three Months Free.

# Lodge Information

Lodge Meetings will be held at 6:30 PM on the second Thursday of every month. We will be meeting at our new venue, the South County Civic Center at 16700 Jog Road, north of Clint Moore Rd in Delray.

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

# SCHOLARSHIPS

If anyone has a *child or grandchild* planning on attending College and would like to apply, Every year, Sgt. Bonanno Lodge has available at least one \$500 scholarship, which will be sent directly to the College of their choice. Please talk to us for more information. Caveat: Members must be in good standing. Contact Gene now!

# Past Lodge Presidents

Edmondo Catania, Joan D'Amato, Edmondo Catania (4yrs), J. Nick Cantore, Marie Ruggiero, Ed Mottola, Jr., Peter Ocello, Steve Petrarca, John Polli, William Santangelo, Peter Vallone, Frank Benedetto, Carlo Boniello, John Boniello, 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 checkedin before entering the meeting at our welcome table, so we can record your attendance.

Please be courteous and respond to our events in a timely manner, and take note that many events have **deadlines**, especially when making arrangements for food. We do try to plan events with an accurate number of mem-

bers 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.



# LA VOCE DI BOCA RATON

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY: SGT BONANNO LODGE #2549 ORDER OF THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA, CONTACT: (EMAIL) OSIAFLBOCA@GMAIL.COM



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