



July 2026

il Giornale di Gabriele

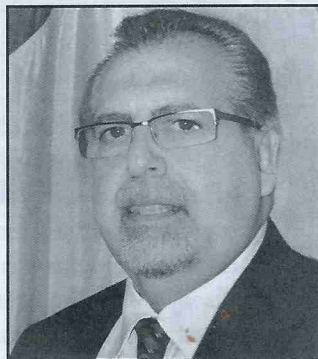
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Lodge 321

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

August is here it's the last month of summer. I hope everyone is having a great summer. The summers around here go too fast for me. August is a great month with all the beautiful flowers and all the fresh vegetables. I would like to thank Giuseppe Ricco for keeping the landscaping at the Lodge looking beautiful. He takes tremendous pride in keeping everything looking beautiful. If you see him at the Lodge, tell him what a great job he is doing.



Our Men's and Woman's Bocce Leagues are half over. It seems to be a good season so far. Stop over and watch the matches. Almost every night subs are needed to play.

Our NYS Convention was held in the last week of June. Our Lodge was presented with an award for initiating over 53 new members last year. We are the biggest Lodge in the state now. Also, Mary Bonitatibus was awarded a jacket for sponsoring over 10 new members. Thanks to Jim Battaglia for letting us use his room for our hospitality room.

We had our Annual Festa on July 18th and 19th it was a huge success even though Saturday's weather was rainy. I would like to thank Dom Cafarelli and Tony Cervera for Chairing, Ray Haines and Carol LaTorre for coordinating the volunteers, Mary Bonitatibus for coordinating all the baskets, Jan Libertucci for the bake sale, Brent Denofio for running the kitchen. Also, a huge Thank you to everyone that worked in the kitchen all the members who volunteer their time to make it a successful event. Thank you to Angie and Ray Haines for paying for Donny Elvis.

It's been a month since we mailed out the raffle tickets they have been slowly coming back. Please sell your 4 tickets and return them back as soon as you can. The drawing will be at the Columbus Dinner in October. If you need additional tickets, please contact the Lodge. The Lodge now has a defibrillator thanks to Angie & Ray Haines. We will be having people trained in how to use it, hopefully we will never have to but if we do, we will know how to use it.

I encourage all our members to stay active in the Lodge by either attending events or volunteering or just stopping in to have a coffee or a drink. Every contribution is appreciated.

Joseph A. Battaglia
President



Established March 28th, 1915



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Fund-Raising Anthony Cervera
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Hall Rentals Richard Pidgeon
Bar Chairperson Joseph Restifo
Cultural Affairs Chairperson Cesare Maniccia
Photographers & Newsletter Gene Loparco,
Groundskeeper Giuseppe Riccio
Veterans Affairs Chair Eugene Loparco

Upcoming Meetings

Officers' Meeting August 3 7:00PM
General Meeting August 17 7:00PM

LODGE RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE

The Lodge once again will be conducting its giant raffle. First prize is \$1000, 2nd prize is \$500 followed by 3 \$100 prizes. By now each member should have received a booklet of 4 tickets. If you have not received your booklet of tickets or if you would like more, please contact the Lodge office at 518 355-7500. Tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for a booklet. Members are encouraged to buy a booklet or sell the tickets to friends and neighbors. \$20 does not seem like a prohibitive amount. The raffle is important because each year, despite the funds that dinners, the Festa, Columbus Dinner and other special events bring in, the Lodge needs the Raffle funds to help meet operating expenses, for scholarships, for donations to needy charities and for conducting a number of programs. You could be this year's winner!

THE FESTA - A SUCCESS!

As expected this year's Festa was a huge success! The food was outstanding. The entertainment was outstanding. The support from our members and friends was outstanding. The leadership and planning provided by the Festa Chair, 1st Vice President Dom Cafarelli, was outstanding. Also very gratifying was the number of members, including several new members, who stepped forward and volunteered their services to help make the Festa the success that it was. Lodge members also donated a great number of baskets which were auctioned off raising a sizeable sum for the Lodge. The weather could have been better but the show must go on; Lodge members worked around the weather and made everything work out. Planning and putting on a Festa is a large undertaking requiring many hands and Lodge members provided those hands! Congratulations and thanks to all those who did such a great job!

COUMBUS DINNER COMING UP!

Now that the Festa has taken place the Lodge turns its attention to the Columbus Dinner coming up in October. Much like the Festa the Columbus Dinner is a big affair, a major undertaking for the Lodge. Planning for the event will require deciding on the menu, arranging for the entertainment, acquiring table decorations, soliciting advertisements and inviting special guests. Since last year's event at Settles Hill Banquet House was so successful a decision was made to hold this year's Columbus Dinner in the same place. Settles Hill is a nice facility with ample room and good food at a fair price, a nice combination. Attendance over the past several years has been excellent and this year's attendance is expected to be the same. Planning is already underway and more specific information will be provided as we get closer to October and things are solidified.

STATE CONVENTION AWARDS

The Lodge had several winners at the State Convention held in June. Pat DiCerbo was one of the winners of the State's giant raffle, Mary Bonitatibus won an OSDIA jacket for sponsoring at least 10 new members during the past year, John DeGeorgio took 3rd place in the wine tasting competition and the Lodge received an award for inducting the most new members during the past year. Congratulations All!

2ND ANNUAL BOCCEE TOURNAMENT

The 2nd Annual Sons and Daughters of Italy Bocce Tournament were held at our Summer Italian Festa (7/18 and 7/19) and six teams participated in this event. The games were incredibly competitive with many lively conversations and strategies along the way between each team member to win points during each match. Congratulations to Fred Mitchell (lodge member) and Rich Conti for winning the tournament. Below is a photo of the winning team.

The team of Domenick Zippiere and Guy Welscher finished in second place; and the team of Bruno Sacchetti and Domenico Cusano (both lodge members) finished in third place. We hope to continue this tradition and look forward to having more teams join us at next year's event. Special thanks to Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara and Nichole Parisi for organizing the event and providing the winning trophies.

CALCIO - MORE THAN A SPORT IN ITALY

As everyone knows, calcio is far more than a sport in Italy, it is an integral part of the nation's culture and identity. It unites people from every region, generation, and background through a shared passion. From neighborhood fields where children first learn the game to legendary stadiums filled with devoted supporters, soccer reflects Italy's sense of community, pride, and tradition. Victories on the international stage have become defining moments in the country's history, inspiring national unity and celebrating the resilience and spirit of the Italian people. For Italian Americans alike, soccer represents heritage, family, and community. It reminds us of our roots and connects generations across oceans. Many of our parents and grandparents grew up listening to matches on the radio or gathering around the television. Their love of the game became our love of the game.

We also have passionate fans at the lodge. On June 26, we celebrated the Campione della Serie A for 2025-2026, which was Internazionale. Rocco Urbano, Alex Stramenga and Fred Mastroianni lifelong Inter fans hosted the celebration. The hosts especially want to thank our head chef Nick Piccirillo and his assistant for the wonderful meal. All attendees donated money at the event, and it was appreciated. Below are photos of the celebration. Sincerely, Fred Mastroianni

New York State Assemblyman
Angelo Santabarbara

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HALL RENTALS

The Lodge has a hall available for rent. The hall can accommodate 125 people. In the past the hall has been used for bridal showers, graduation parties, small weddings, Sweet Sixteen parties, baptismal parties, birthday parties, meetings, funeral receptions and a variety of other functions. Please contact Richard Pidgeon at 518 356-0288 for information regarding pricing, availability and other information.



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AUGURI A TUTTI!

The following Sons and Daughters of Lodge 321 will celebrate a birthday this month. Be sure to wish them a **Buon Compleanno** on their special day.

BIRTHDAYS

1. Rocco Urbano
2. Anthony Salerno
3. Toni Burke, Gene Loparco
6. Robert Loscalzo, Celeste Rossetti
7. Matthew Tiscione
10. Ken Dagostino, Jr, Mario Franco
12. Joseph DeMarco
14. Anthony Guzzardi
15. Assunto Barbato
16. Joseph Sacco, Joseph Sorrentino
17. Donna Toussaint
19. Lester Ersland, Lena Pasquariello
21. Giovanna DeFilippo
22. Chris Bonitatibus, Anthony Coppola, Kenneth Litz
23. Robert Esposito, Sr
24. Paolo Califano, Scott Trudell, Theresa Viva
27. Anthony Maiello
28. Chris Hollister, Matilda Mastroianni
29. Dan DeMarco, Steve Tommasone
31. Edward Nardini, Carla Page

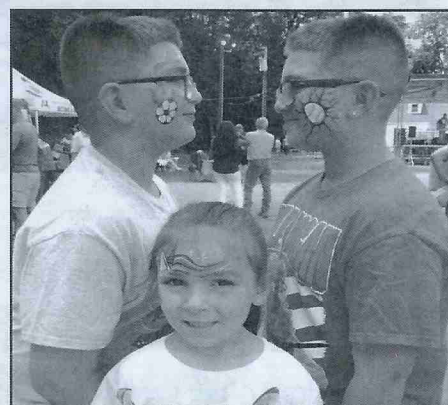
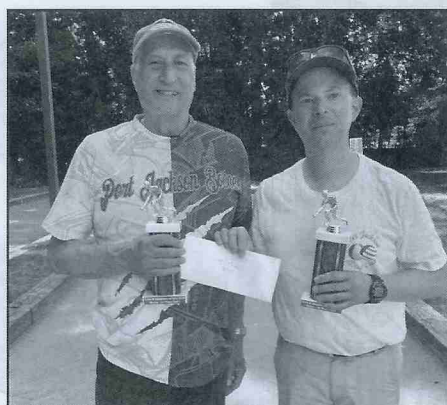
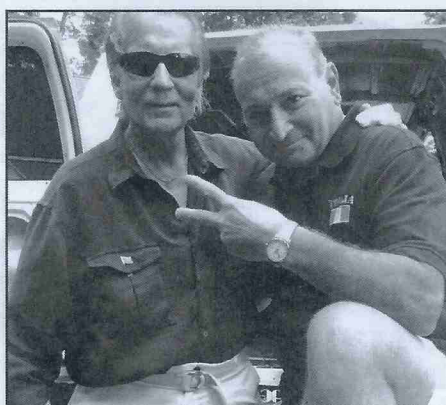
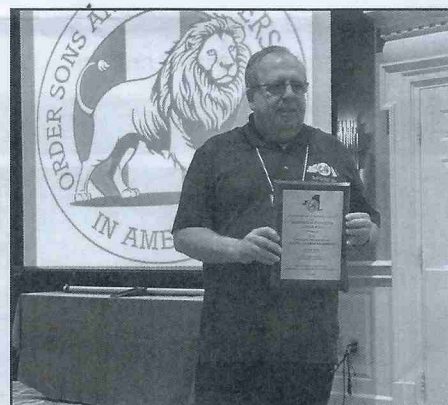
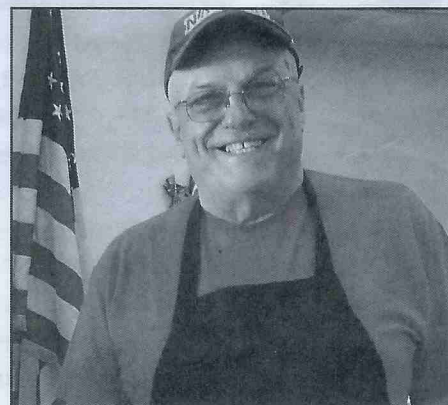
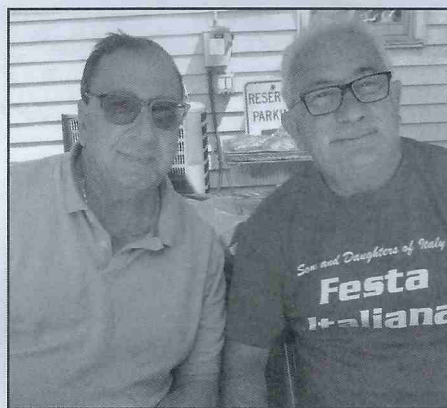
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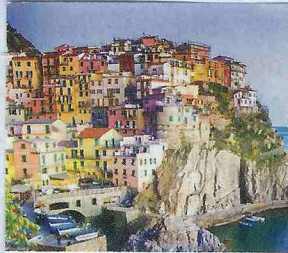
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Calendario Di Gabriele

Officers' Meeting
August 3 at 7 PM
General Membership
August 17 at 7 PM

Riunione Degli Ufficiali
3 Augusto 7 PM
Assemblea Generale
17 Augusto 7 PM

UPCOMING LODGE EVENTS

Columbus Dinner	October 10	6:30 PM
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