



il Giornale di Gabriele

In Schenectady Since 1915

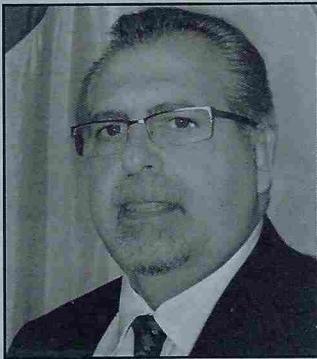
January 2026



Lodge 321

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

January 2026 has arrived. I hope last year was a good year for everyone and I hope 2026 will be even a better year. The Lodge had a good year with many activities and fundraising events. We had a lot of new members volunteering to help. That is a great sign of thing to come. We have a lot of activities scheduled for 2026.



On December 13th we had one of our major fundraising dinners, the Seven Fish Dinner. This year we served 126 guests, a seven-course dinner. It was a huge success, but it took a lot of hard work from many dedicated volunteers. I would like to thank the cooks, waitstaff, bartenders, dishwashers, members who help prep the food, people who donated baskets, music and my Co Chair for the event John DeGeorgio. It was great to see the Lodge full of people having a wonderful time.

In Italy, the Christmas season lasts all the way till January 6th the Feast of the Epiphany. The Epiphany marks the arrival of the Three Wise Men to the manger bearing gifts to baby Jesus. In Italy January 6th is a special day for children hoping for a visit from la Befana she is a kind old witch who brings gifts to children. Only if they were good.

Lastly, the Membership Dues Notices were mailed out at the end of October. As I am writing this letter, we still have not heard from numerous members who have not responded. We will be contacting them by phone. I hope everyone will renew their membership.

As always, Please help support the Lodges Fundraising Events, they help to keep the Lodge going strong. I would like to personally thank all the volunteers who helped last year will all our events. Without great volunteers nothing would have been accomplished.

I would like to wish everyone and your families a Healthy and Prosperous New Year!!

Joseph A. Battaglia
President



Established March 28th, 1915



OSDIA Officer 2025-2026

President Joe Battaglia
Immediate Past President Louis Fazzone
1st Vice President Dom Cafarelli
2nd Vice President Anthony Cervera
Orator Dave Denofio
Recording Secretary Francis Pugliese
Corresponding Secretary Janice Libertucci
Financial Secretary Carmen Libertucci
Treasurer Fred Mastroianni
Principal Trustee Ray Haines
Trustees James Battaglia, Dave Bonitatibus, Anna Califano, John DeGeorgio, John Della Porta, Michael Masucci, Carolann Renna, Joe Restifo, Brian Vattimo
Mistresses of Ceremony Franca Della Porta, Lena Pasquariello
Sentinel Barry Van Steele
NYS Trustee Lisa Serafini
Dist. 6 Deputy Anthony Geddes
Lodge Chaplain Rev. Dominic Isopo
Membership Chairperson Dom Cafarelli
Public & Community Relations Cesare Maniccia
Fund-Raising Anthony Cervera
Kitchen Chairpersons Amerigo Reale
House Chairpersons John DeGeorgio
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	Jan 5	7:00PM
General Meeting	Jan 19	7:00PM

CHICKEN PARM DINNER- JANUARY 17th

Start the New Year right with a delicious Chicken Parm dinner on Saturday, January 17 from 4-6 PM. This one is takeout only. The dinner will include Chicken Parm, pasta, salad, bread, coffee and dessert for \$20 per person. This is a chance to enjoy a great meal and no one has to do the cooking! Call the Lodge at 518 355-7500 for reservations. A great way to start the New Year!

IT'S BREAKFAST TIME- SUNDAY, JANUARY 25th

It's time to enjoy another Sunday breakfast at the Lodge. January's breakfast will take place on Sunday, January 25 from 9 to 11:30 AM. Like the previous delicious breakfasts this one will include eggs, bacon, sausage, French toast, pancakes, coffee and dessert. All you can eat for \$10 per person. No reservations needed. Everyone is welcome!

DUES ARE OVERDUE!

Annual dues are overdue. The expiration date for membership renewal dues was December 31st but because there are still a few members who have not renewed the Lodge has extended the expiration date to Friday, January 16th. Those renewing after that date will be charged an additional administrative fee. If you have forgotten, this is a friendly reminder. DO IT NOW!!

BUSINESS CARD ADS

Any member, interested in having their Business Card, in 321's Newsletter; Please, contact Fran Pugliese 518 372-8798 OR email Fran, at: puganthon@aol.com

AIHA NEWS AND VIEWS

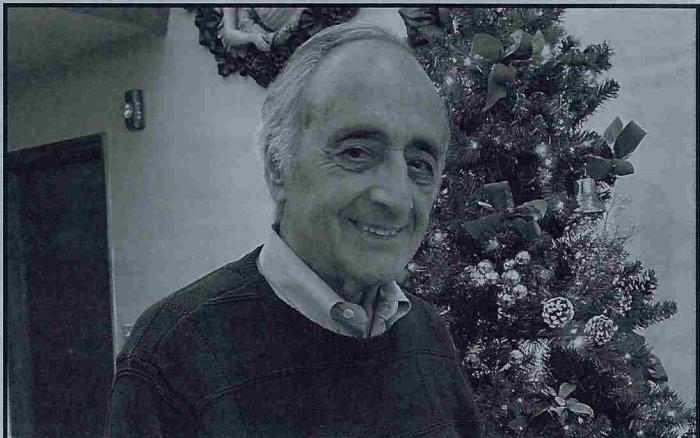
This year's traditional Presepe designed and erected by Lodge member Joseph Anastasio will continue to be on exhibit through the month of January at the American Italian Heritage Museum. The nativity scene is absolutely beautiful and well worth a visit to the museum. A picture of the Presepe was included in the latest edition of the Grand Lodge's newsletter, the Golden Lion. Also a picture of the Presepe and Joseph Anastasio is included in this newsletter.

Planning a wedding? The museum has available a wide variety of wedding dresses. The dresses are new, beautiful, modern style and heavily discounted. Any search for a wedding dress should include a visit to the museum's bridal shop. You won't be disappointed!

The museum conducts bi-weekly sessions of Practice Your Italian. The sessions are geared for people who wish to learn and practice speaking conversational Italian. The sessions are informal, free of charge and are led by Joseph Anastasio. Please call the museum at 518 435-1979 for information on any of the above.

MEET THE PICCIRILLI BROTHERS

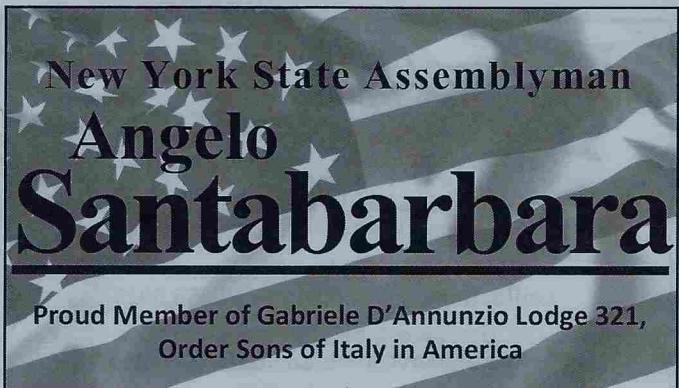
Giuseppe Piccirilli and his family, which included his six sons, moved from Massa, Italy to New York City and settled in the Bronx. Giuseppe was a master carver of marble and stone and passed on his skills to his sons who would become famous and in much demand throughout the United States. Although some of their work included their own designs, the Piccirilli Brothers were not architects or designers, they were master carvers who were called upon to carve the designs of other architects and designers. Their work included ornate carvings and statues across the country. A partial listing of their works includes the statue of Abraham Lincoln in the Lincoln Memorial, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the lions and ornamentation at the New York Public Library, the statues and ornamentation in the Washington Arch in NYC, the monument in front of Union Station in Washington, the monument in DuPont Circle in Washington, ornamentation in the House of Representative section of the US Capitol building, ornate carvings at the New York Stock Exchange building in NYC, the memorial at the grave of Fiorillo LaGuardia, the statue at the Manitoba Legislative Building in Canada, ornamentation at the Brooklyn Museum and numerous carvings in Pennsylvania, California and other locations throughout the country. Their shop which was next door to their home in the Bronx closed in 1945 and unfortunately much of the documentation of their work was not preserved. Their work, however, remains for all to see. More great names in our great heritage!

**VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH**

The Volunteer of the Month for January is Richard (Rit) Pidgeon. Rit joined the Sons and Daughters of Italy in 2008 and has been an active member ever since then. A few of Rit's previous efforts included chairing the membership renewal program, serving as chair of the election process and participating as a server for a number of dinners. Currently he administers the Lodge's Hall Rental Program. Rit has been a valued member of the Lodge for many years and is always available when called upon. Thanks, Rit!

New York State Assemblyman
Angelo
Santabarbara

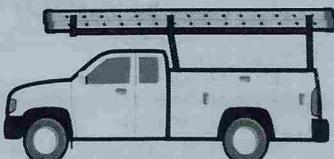
Proud Member of Gabriele D'Annunzio Lodge 321,
Order Sons of Italy in America



George
Amedore
Proud Member



MMARAGOSA
HOME SERVICES, LLC



153 Horstman Drive
Scotia, NY 12302

518-321-5361
michaelaragosa@gmail.com

Thinking of placing an
ad in our newsletter?

Place your ad here!

Contact the lodge (518) 355-7500

COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL



Fully Insured

DINO VISCUSI
LICENSED CONTRACTOR
124 Giffords Church Rd
SUITE 1
SCHENECTADY, NY 12306
cell: 518-365-5666
office/fax 518-356-6707

info@dvelectricinc.com

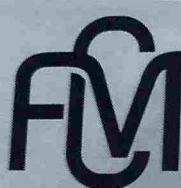
www.facebook.com/dvelectric

LITZ & LITZ, ESQS.
Family owned and operated since 1952

Phone: (518) 372-3329 Fax: (518) 372-3358

Kenneth P. Litz, Esq. kplitz@litzandlitz.com
Joseph L. Litz, Esq. jllitz@litzandlitz.com

143 Clinton Street Schenectady, New York 12305



FCM Engineering PLLC
its.about.relationships

Fred C. Mastroianni, P.E.
Principal Engineer

156 Spring Road
Scotia, NY 12302

518-641-9192

Fred@FCMengPLLC.com
FCMengpllc.com

PEDE & SONS
Italian Specialty Foods



Cash & Carry
Wholesale/Retail
OPEN
M-F 9-4:30 Sat 9-2

Cheese & Beef Ravioli's
Manicotti Tortellini Gnocchi
Cavatelli Lasagna Sheets
Stuffed Rigatoni Stuffed Shells
Imported Cheese Cold Cuts
Pasta Canned Tomatoes

582 Duanesburg Rd.
Schenectady, NY 12306

AnnMarie Pede
Bus. (518) 355-5437

Liberty • Equality • Fraternity

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Submissions may be made by bringing the article to the Lodge Office to the attention of President Joe Battaglia; email the article to Porthuron59@msn.com

HALL RENTALS

The Lodge has two halls available for rent. The large hall can accommodate 125 people and the small hall is suitable for up to 25 people. In the past the halls have 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.

**In Loving Memory
of Our Deceased Member(s)**



DEAN ATTANASIO

President/CEO

1233 FORT HUNTER ROAD

SCHENECTADY, NY 12303

STORE: (518) 356-4364

info@caribbeanpoolsny.com

www.caribbeanpoolsny.com

CELL: (518) 356-4364
deanattanasio@me.com

- 5" & 6" Seamless Gutters
- Gutter Guards
- Fully Insured
- Free Estimates
- Locally Owned

T & J
SEAMLESS GUTTERS

Owner: TJ Roosevelt
tjseamless@gmail.com
(518) 902-8384



DeMarco - Stone
Funeral Home, Inc. - since 1921

Independent Family Owned & Operated

1605 Helderberg Ave.
Rotterdam, NY 12306 • 518.355.5770

5216 Western Tpke • P.O. Box 430
Guilderland, NY 12084 • 5118.356.5925

demarcostone@nycap.rr.com
www.demarcostonefuneralhome.com

HALO

Salon & Blowout Bar

ANN MARIE CARNEY

OWNER-STYLIST-MAKEUP ARTIST

1570 HELDERBERG AVE. SCHENECTADY, NY 12306

(518) 346-7600 CELL (518) 378-5053

**IF YOU LIVE FOR IT,
WE'LL HELP YOU PLAN FOR IT.**

Patrick A Di Cerbo,
B.A., MSFS, ChFC®, CFP®
Wealth Management Advisor
518.281.8200
patticerbo.com

 **Northwestern Mutual**

07-1012 ©2020 The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, Milwaukee, WI (Northwestern Mutual).

Mickey Valletta
Owner

TOWNE TV
**AUDIO AND
APPLIANCES**

3125 Carman Road, Schenectady, NY 12303
518-355-1020 518-573-4070 Cell
www.townetv.com mickey@townetv.com

"Where you always get the Best in Towne!!"

SONY

Liberty • Equality • Fraternity



518-489-4106 • Fax 518-489-1184
www.tedsfloorcovering.com

118 Everett Rd.
Albany, NY 12205



Family owned since 1963
Leonard R. Angers 15 Angers Avenue (Rotterdam)
Michael F. Litz Schenectady, NY 12303
Cheryl Angers 518-355-8030
Renee McDonald Contact@angersandlitz.com

BEST WISHES TO LODGE 321

Oxford Heights APARTMENTS Guilderland

Find your dream apartment. Call today!
518-456-4822 • oxfordheights@burnsmgmt.com
Visit us at oxfordheights.com
6211 Johnston Road • Albany, NY 12203

*Helping dreams come true
across the Capital Region*

Amedore★ H O M E S

Surround Yourself with Excellence!

amedorehomes.com



Every life deserves a time of honoring and celebrating
David J. Ditoro, Funeral Director
518-374-0854
www.rossiditorofuneralhome.com



1301 State Street
Schenectady

518-346-6992 • www.marinosflyingpizza.com



164 Cordell Road
Schenectady, NY 12303
Tel: 518-372-6126
Fax: 518-372-6196

www.lps-plumbing.com

Jennifer Harris
Community Manager

Oxford Heights
6211 Johnston Road,
Albany NY 12203
O: 518-456-4822

jharris@burnsmgmt.com
www.burnsmgmt.com

Liberty • Equality • Fraternity

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. Alberto Nino
2. Carol LaTorre, Selvina Marotta
Phil Pratico, Anthony Signore
3. Julianna Struys
5. Michael Badalucca, Jr, Joanne Langley
7. Louis Fazzone, Lucy Sacchetti,
Antonio Serafini
9. Nick Barber
10. Luigi Gazzillo, Joseph Lanaro
12. Richard Fazzone
14. Theresa DeMarco Slovak
17. James Pavoldi, Frank Puglisi
Maria Russell, Renato Viscusi
19. Guido Squeglia
20. Joseph Pariccia, Blanche Payne
22. Fred Whelan
23. Charles Montagino
25. Maimone Orazio
26. Paul Romano
27. Michele Viscusi
28. Dean Attanasio, Nano Squeglia
29. David Bonitatibus
30. Gerald Casso, Michael Stella
31. Michael Ferracane, Michael Pastore

CONTACT & HOURS

Phone: 518-355-7500
Address: 2984 Hamburg Street
Schenectady, NY 12303
Email: osialodge321@gmail.com
Website: www.osialodge321.org
Facebook: Order Sons of Italy in America
Gabriele d'Annunzio Lodge 321
Hours: Open 8:30am - 10:30am Daily
6:30pm - 10:00pm Mon - Fri

Neapolitan New Year Traditions - www.napleswise.com

One of the things I loved most after moving to Italy was learning about Italian traditions, and then getting to participate in them. Understanding these gives you an insight into the people around you, and it helped Warren and I feel more connected to our new home.

Neapolitans, more than people from other parts of Italy, have a lot of different traditions and superstitions. Some of these are followed year-round, and others are specific to a particular holiday or event, so it is not surprising that there are plenty connected to New Year's Eve!

Red Underwear

If you're in Naples earlier in December, you may wonder why lots of the market stalls in the city are selling bright red underwear. Well, this is because on New Year's Eve you can guarantee that a large percentage of the local population will be wearing some.

This is a more modern interpretation of a very old tradition of wearing red to attract good fortune, in both wealth and love. If you wear red underwear as the new year starts, then you are setting yourself up well for prosperity and positive energy. Many people also believe that the custom is most effective if you throw away the underwear and don't wear it again – this is why so much is for sale, as buying a new set each year is common!

Lentils, Cotechino and Grapes

There are many dishes that are served for the New Year's Eve dinner, but no matter what, as the midnight toast approaches you will find yourself being presented with a plate of lentils, topped with slices of cotechino, and also grapes.

Cotechino is a rich, fatty sausage that is shaped like a log before being slowly cooked. This is sliced into rounds and served with lentils. I'll be honest, this is not my favourite Italian dish (especially after a large dinner) but when the plate comes at midnight I always eat some. Why? Well, all those round elements represent money, plus the richness of the meat also represents abundance, so I'm not going to turn down good luck!

You'll find lentils and cotechino all over Italy, but in Naples there is an additional tradition which caught on during the time of Spanish rule here. At midnight everyone gets 12 grapes, which you eat for the 12 chimes of the clock right as the year is changing for even more good luck.

Champagne

It wouldn't be an Italian party without plenty of wine, but champagne or other sparkling wines come with additional meaning during the New Year in Naples.

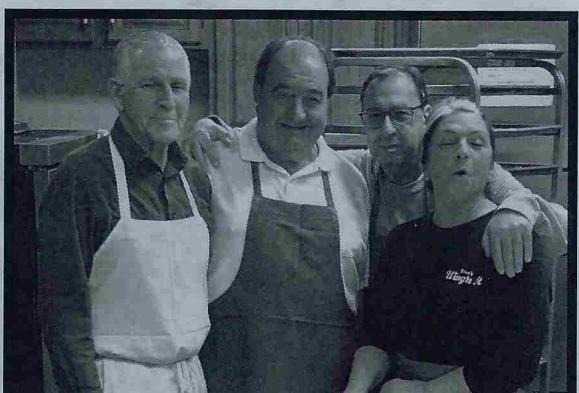
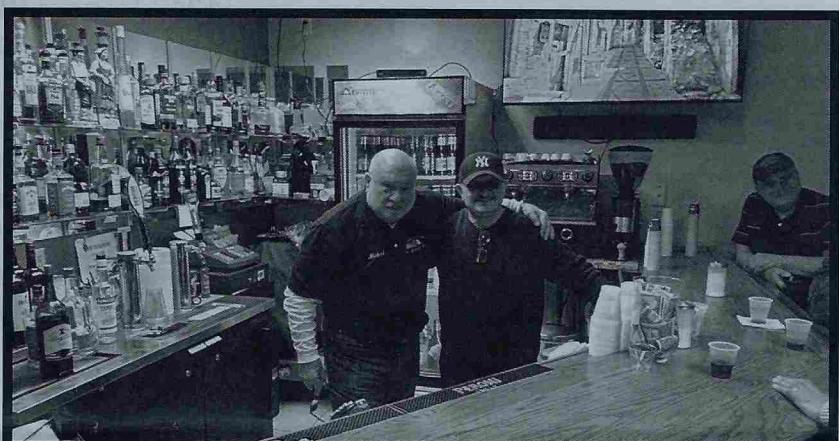
Firstly, it is common for people to shake the bottles a little to make the cork really pop when it is opened. The loud noise scares spirits away (this is also one of the reasons Neapolitans give for all the fireworks) so a loud champagne toast is always popular.

Secondly, if someone tries to dab some wine behind your ear, let them! It sounds odd, but dipping your finger in your wine and putting a drop behind someone else's ear is a way of wishing them good luck for the new year.

For more from this article, please visit:

<https://napleswise.com/essential-things/celebrating-the-new-year-in-naples/>

Calendario Di Gabriele



VISIT US AT WWW.OSIALODGE321.ORG

