



March 2026

il Giornale di Gabriele

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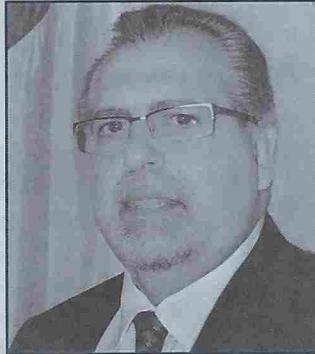


Lodge 321

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

March is here: It has been a long and very cold winter this year. I can't wait till Spring and some warmer weather. Winter seems like it is getting longer each year.

Our Membership dues were collected for 2026. It was a long and hard process this year. I would like to thank all the members who renewed their membership. But unfortunately, we had 40 members that did not renew. I would like to thank my wife Tina for helping collect the dues and sending out the membership cards.



We had our Valentines Dinner on February 14th. It was attended by 74 people; we enjoyed a Steak Dinner. The food was delicious as always. I would like to thank Dom Cafarelli for Chairing the event. Also, a big thank you to all the volunteers who decorated, served the food, bartended and especially the cooks in the kitchen. They always do a tremendous job. Thank you to Mary & Dave Bonitatibus for doing the baskets that were raffled off.

We are bringing back Festa Della Donna this year on March 8th. We have not had dinner for the ladies in a few years. It would like to thank Lisa Serafini and Franca Della Porta for Chairing the event. The cost will be \$35.00, the meal will be Antipasto, Tortellini Alfredo, Pene Bolognese, Chicken Marsala, Vegetable, Mimosa Drinks and Cake. It's a great dinner to honor the ladies. The tickets must be paid for in advance no tickets will be sold at the door.

We will be having our annual St Joseph Dinner on March 21st at 6:30 pm. The meal will consist of Salad, Greens & Beans, Spaghetti with Garlic & Oil, Pasta w/ Ceci Beans, Braided Bread and for dessert St. Joseph Zeppoles. The price will be \$25.00. The sign-up sheet will be at the bar. The tickets need to be paid in advance. We will be having a altar for St. Joseph so we would like members attending to bring flowers or a baked good. Our Chair for the event will be Carolann Renna and myself.

March 19th is St. Josephs Day. St. Joseph played an important role in Jesus' life as his foster Father. In Italy St. Joseph Day is also Father's Day. Our next all you can eat breakfast will be on March 22nd from 9 to 11am. Cost will be \$10.00. Please plan on attending. Its always a great breakfast with plenty of food.

As always, please help support the Lodges Fundraising Events, they help to keep the Lodge going strong.

Joseph A. Battaglia
President



Established March 28th, 1915



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- Photographers & Newsletter** Gene Loparco,
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- Veterans Affairs Chair** Eugene Loparco

Upcoming Meetings

- Officers' Meeting** March 2 7:00PM
- General Meeting** March 16 7:00PM

TRADITIONAL ITALIAN SUNDAY DINNER

The Italian Sunday dinner has long been a large part of Italian culture. Many Lodge members remember Sunday dinners either at home or at the home of their grandparents. Some Lodge members still prepare and enjoy Sunday dinners with their extended families. The traditional menu usually included zuppa, antipasto, primo piatto (pasta), secondo piatto (main course), insalada, dolci e café. There was always plenty of food, drink and conversation. They were the best of times.

The Lodge is scheduling a Traditional Italian Sunday Dinner for Sunday, April 19 at 2 PM. The menu, which is still being developed, will follow the menu cited above. The cost will be \$30 per person and the dinner, like most Italian Sunday dinners, will be served family style. More details will be forthcoming in the April newsletter but in the meantime save the date and plan to attend a Traditional Italian Sunday. It is part of our culture, it is part of our heritage.

SAN GIUSEPPE DINNER – MARCH 21ST

The San Giuseppe Dinner is an occasion in which we celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph, the patron saint of Italy. The dinner traditionally is a simple dinner for the poor. The meal will be a buffet which will include tossed salad, braided bread, pasta with ceci beans, spaghetti with aglio e olio, greens and beans, zeppole and coffee. Cost is \$25 per person and the ticket deadline is March 18th. Please call the Lodge at 518 355-7500 for reservations.

SUNDAY BREAKFAST- MARCH 22ND

The Sunday breakfast for March will take place on Sunday, March 22nd from 9 to 11 AM. The breakfasts have been well attended and It is good to see friends and neighbors enjoying each others company while they enjoy a nice breakfast. The breakfast includes all the usual breakfast items, eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, juice, pastry and coffee. Cost is still \$10 per person and no reservations are needed. Just stop in!

IT IS RAFFLE TIME AGAIN!

Tickets for the New York State Grand Lodge raffle are now available. Tickets are \$100 each and can be purchased by individuals or by individuals getting together in small groups. There are several prizes and the grand prize is \$20,000. The winning tickets will be drawn at the State Convention in June. The Lodge has been fortunate to have had 4 winners in the past 5 years. Tickets will be available at all General Meetings between now and the convention in June or by calling Fran Pugliese at 518 605-1426.

WOMEN'S BOCCE INFORMATIONAL MEETING

The Women's Bocce League will hold an informational meeting on Thursday, April 16th at 6:30pm at the Lodge Hall in preparation for the upcoming season. All interested players are encouraged to attend. Substitutes are welcome! Any questions please call Gina Piccirillo at 518 469-2963 or Anna Califano at 518 522-3393.

VALENTINE DAY STEAK DINNER A SUCCESS

The Valentine's Day Steak Dinner was a success. The dinner was the first steak dinner that the Lodge has had in many years. Seventy-five members and friends got to enjoy a great meal. Many compliments were received from those attending. The success of the dinner was encouraging and the Lodge is planning to hold similar events in the future.

FESTA DELLA DONNA SOLD OUT!

The Festa Della Donna Dinner scheduled for Sunday March 8th has sold out. Tickets for the dinner, which celebrates International Women's Day, sold out quickly. Those fortunate enough to get tickets will enjoy a four course delicious meal and a special program. Male members of the Lodge will serve the meal.

GOOD FRIDAY FISH FRY- APRIL 3RD

The Lodge's annual Good Friday fish Fry will take place on Friday, April 3rd from 4- 6 pm and the cost will be \$15 per person. The Drive Thru event will feature a fish fry, pasta salad and dessert. The event has always been well received by members in the past and is expected to be as successful this year. The event provides Lodge members an opportunity to enjoy a nice meal on a quiet peaceful day. Reservations can be made by calling 518 355-7500.

AIHA EASTER BAKE SALE- APRIL 4TH

The American Italian Heritage Museum will be conducting its annual Easter Bake Sale on Saturday April 4th from noon to 3 pm featuring items bake by Bella Napoli Bakery. The sale will include items such as sfogliatelle, cannoli, cookies, ham and cheese pie, ricotta pie, Easter bread, guanti, paski bread and more. Orders can be placed by calling the museum at 518 435-1979.

The museum also will continue its winter hours through the month of April. Winter hours are Saturday from 1 to 3 pm and Friday by appointment.

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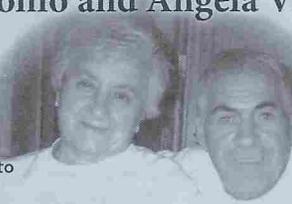
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HALL RENTALS

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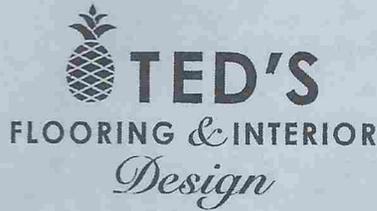


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AUGURI A TUTTI!

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. Paul Mastroianni
5. Antonio DiCarlo, Vince Romano
6. Antonio Compagnano, Jack Falvio
7. Sandra Mandel
9. Andrew Fiumano, Flora Marotta
10. David Battaglia, Lucas Cafarelli, Mario DeMarco
13. Joseph Fazzone
14. Francis Loparco
15. Giovanni D'Ambrosio, Peter Farina
16. Domenico DiStefano, Joseph Peretta
17. Peter Sparano, Ann Sweeney
20. Vito Caruso
21. Maria Sacchetti
23. Frank Ottomanelli, Gaziella Palleschi Vincent Riggi, Nadine Vasko
24. Antonio Civitella, Ray Haines
25. Ray DeMatteo, Jr, Barry Van Steele
26. Karen Sullivan
27. Melanie DeCesare
28. Peter Rufer, Patrick Toma
29. Nick Falvo, Helen Pugliese
31. Alberto Mastroianni, Antonio Riccio

CONTACT & HOURS

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Address: 2984 Hamburg Street
Schenectady, NY 12303
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Website: www.osialodge321.org
Facebook: Order Sons of Italy in America
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Hours: Open 8:30am - 10:30am Daily
6:30pm - 10:00pm Mon - Fri

MEET ENRICO CARUSO

There are many great names in the opera world, composers, conductors and singers but none greater than Enrico Caruso. Caruso started singing as a choir-boy in the churches of his native city of Naples. At age 16 he got a job as a receiving clerk in a Naples factory and supplemented his income by singing at night in cafes and at street festivals. In 1893, after some training, he decided to seek a career in opera although his voice gave little evidence of its eventual power. He made his debut in an opera house in Naples in 1894 in the opera *L'Amico Francesco*. During the next three years, while studying with the renowned Vincenzo Lombardi, he performed as a member of itinerant opera troupes. In 1898 he gave a sensational performance at the premiere of the opera *Fedora* at the LaScala Opera House in Milan and over the next five years was enthusiastically received in performances in Milan, Lisbon, Monte Carlo and Rio de Janeiro. He made his American debut at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York on November 21, 1903, appearing in *Rigoletto*, and remained the leading tenor of the opera house for seventeen years. His golden tenor was one of the greatest male voices in the history of opera and he possessed a dramatic gift particularly suited to Italian opera. He performed as the leading tenor in a number of famous operas and his rendering of the aria *Vesti la Giubba* from the opera *Pagliacci* became a classic which is still heard today on many radio stations. Caruso died in Naples on August 2, 1921.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

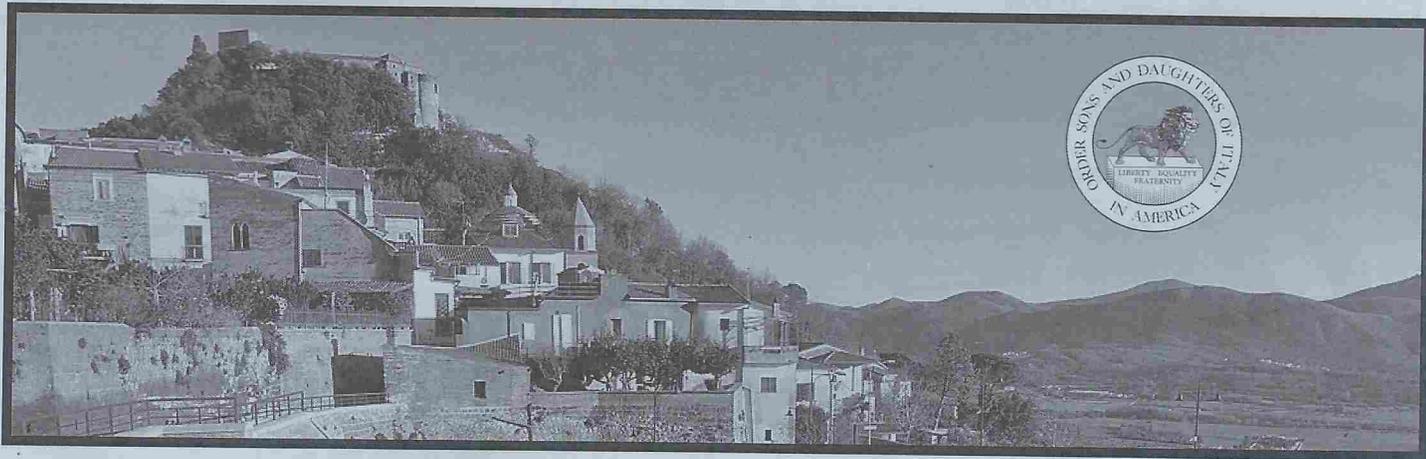
Submissions may be made by bringing the article to the Lodge Office to the attention of President Joe Battaglia; email the article to Porthuron59@msn.com

HALL RENTALS

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Calendario Di Gabriele



March in Italy marks the transition from winter to spring, bringing diverse weather and longer daylight hours across its regions. The month is characterized by milder temperatures and moderate rainfall, with nature awakening across the country, making it a fresh and scenic time to visit.

In Northern Italy, temperatures range from 41°F to 55°F (5°C to 13°C). The region experiences an average of 10-12 rainy days, gradually emerging from the winter chill. Snowfall becomes less common, giving way to blooming landscapes.

Central Italy enjoys mild temperatures between 46°F and 59°F (8°C and 15°C) with about 8-10 rainy days in March. The central region witnesses the budding of early spring, with green hillsides and blossoming flowers, making it ideal for outdoor activities.

Southern Italy in March brings temperatures ranging from 50°F to 64°F (10°C to 18°C), with an average of 6-8 rainy days. Spring in the south is warm and drier than the winter months.

Coastal areas and countryside start to flourish, with the beauty of the Italian Lakes region changing with the season and bringing areas like Lake Como to life.

So, what is the weather like in Italy in March? Here's a breakdown of the most popular regions and cities.

Rome weather in March: In March, Rome enjoys mild weather with temperatures ranging from 45°F to 61°F (7°C to 16°C). The city experiences about 8-10 rainy days. This is a great time for sightseeing since the climate is pleasant and the city starts to bloom with early spring flowers.

Florence weather in March: In March, temperatures range between 43°F and 59°F (6°C and 15°C), and there are around 7-9 rainy days. The mild climate and fewer crowds make it ideal for exploring Florence's rich history and art, and occasional rain adds to the city's romantic charm.

Venice weather in March: Expect temperatures ranging from 39°F to 55°F (4°C to 13°C) in Venice during March. There are about 8-10 rainy days, often accompanied by foggy mornings. This transitional weather enhances the magic of Venice's canals and architecture, offering a quieter experience before the peak season.

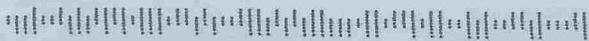
Tuscany weather in March: In Tuscany, March temperatures are around 59°F (15°C) during the day, dropping to 43°F (6°C) as the sun goes down. The region experiences 7-9 rainy days, and early spring brings blossoming landscapes and verdant hills, so it's a beautiful time to visit the countryside. Enjoy wine tours and explore charming medieval towns.

Amalfi Coast weather in March: The Amalfi Coast enjoys mild temperatures in March, ranging from 50°F (10°C) to 61°F (16°C), with about 6-8 rainy days. The weather is generally pleasant, perfect for scenic coastal drives, visiting quaint villages, and enjoying breathtaking views without the summer crowds.

Italian Lakes weather in March: Lake Como and Lake Garda have temperatures from 41°F to 55°F (5°C to 13°C) during this month. There are around 8-10 rainy days, which, combined with the early signs of spring, bring a fresh atmosphere to areas like Lake Como and Lake Garda. This month is ideal for peaceful walks, boat rides, and exploring lakeside towns.

Read on by visiting <https://untolditaly.com/italy-in-march/>

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Calendario Di Gabriele

Officers' Meeting

March 2 at 7 PM

General Membership

March 16 at 7 PM

Riunione Degli Ufficiali

2 Marzo 7 PM

Assemblea Generale

16 Marzo 7 PM

UPCOMING LODGE EVENTS

Festa Della Donne	March 8	1 PM
St. Joseph's Dinner	March 21	6:30 PM
Sunday Breakfast	March 22	9-11 AM
Fish Fry Take Out	April 3	4-6 PM
Traditional Sunday Dinner	April 19	2 PM
Wine Tasting Contest/Dinner	May 18	2 PM

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