**President**

John Romano

**Vice-President**

Sue Connors

**Past President**

Charles DeStefano

**Orator**

Michele Caira Nortonen

**Recording Secretary**

Lynne Martell

**Financial Secretary**

Walter Palino

**Treasurer**

Cheryl Caira

**Trustees**

Alicia Johnson

Diane Garrity

Lennie Malvone

Julie Sbraccia-Manos

Janet Engrem

**Mistresses of Ceremony**

Laura Caira

Mary Kiesinger

**Sentinel**

Cheryl Licciardi

**Deputy**

Betty Sandquist

 **March 2021 Newsletter**

**Sons of Italy Events**

03/13/21 – St Patrick’s Day Virtual **Bingo**

03/27+28/2021 – Wilmington Sons of Italy **Diaper Drive** (flyer attached)

03/31/21 – *Grand Lodge C&E Trust* **100 Hungry Lions Raffle**

04/22/21 – Wilmington Sons of Italy **Installation**

05/15/21 **–** Wilmington Sons of Italy **Blood Drive** (pending approval)

06/2021 **–** *Grand Lodge* **Calendar Raffle**

07/25/21 – Wilmington Sons of Italy **Car Show** (save the date)

09/20/21 – Italian Heritage **Golf Tournament** (save the date)

**Elections** for 2021-2022

Elections were held at our virtual meeting on February 25, 2021. All positions were unopposed. **Installation** of new officers will take place at a virtual meeting on **April 22,2021**.

President – Sue Connors; Vice President – Alicia Johnson; Past-President – John Romano; Orator – Lennie Malvone; Recording Secretary – Lynne Martell; Financial Secretary – Walter Palino; Treasurer – Cheryl Caira; Trustees Janet Engrem, Karen Scalzi, Pia Romano, Judy Agnes, Linda Caruso; Mistresses of Ceremony – Michele Caira Nortonen, Mary Kiesinger; Sentinel – Cheryl Licciardi. Roncalli Board – Aldo Caira, Jr., Charles DeStefano, Lynne Martell, Lennie Malvone.

 **Donation request should be made using the form on the web site** so that we have all the necessary information. Just click on donation request forms on the first page at [***http://www.wilmingtonsoi.org***](http://www.wilmingtonsoi.org)

**The Grand Lodge monthly meeting minutes are available to view and download from the “News” tab on the Grand Lodge Website (**[**www.osiama.org**](http://www.osiama.org)**)**

**Update on Correspondence:**

We received Thank you notes from:

* Deb Casey of the Parish of the Transfiguration for our Christmas donation from our Outreach Program.

**Wilmington Band Parents Calendar Raffle -** Wilmington Band Parents are running a TWO MONTH (4/1 - 5/31) Calendar Raffle to benefit the Wildcat Bands.  **Tickets are 1 for $5 or 3 for $10**. There will be two drawings most days with items being awarded valued at $15 or more (gift cards; etc.) and then there will be special drawings such as on   **WACKY WEDNESDAYs** when one raffle prize winner will be awarded an   **item valued between $50 to $200**. There will be a winner every day for a car wash.    **The grand finale prize is a Custom Handmade Cornhole Set valued at $250. There are more than 100 chances to win!** The Calendar of prizes is complete.
If anyone would like to purchase tickets, they can email the band parents at    whswildcatbandsparents@gmail.com, contact Steve at (978) 771-0810 or Venmo raffle ticket monies to @WilmingtonBand-Parents.
Thanks again for your continued support and help.
Regards, Barbara Sica (978) 501-1836

**Diaper Drive –** The Wilmington Sons of Italy is sponsoring a diaper drive to help support Paula Stalker and **Gifts of Love** by providing diapers and wipes to local mothers in need. We will be collecting diapers and wipes for the **whole month of March**. On **March 27th and 28th**, we will have a **Drive-By Diaper Drop Off** at the 4th of July Building Parking lot from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. There will be a visit from the Easter Bunny from 11:00 am to 12:00 am and Italian Goodies. Social distancing guidelines will be followed, and masks are required. Contact Janet (617) 958-2460 or e-mail jknje@comcast.net A flyer is attached.

**Blood Drive –** will be held on Saturday, **May 15, 2021** in the Parking Lot of the 4th of July Building from 9am – 3pm, by the Children’s Hospital Bloodmobile. More information will follow pending approval from the town.

Contact Julie 978 284-3260 or sbracciamanos@comcast.net

**100 Hungry Lions Raffle** - The Grand Lodge C&E Trust of which Kevin is the Chairman and John is a Trustee, is holding a 100 Hungry Lions Raffle to raise money for Scholarships. ONLY 100 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD!    The prize structure is as follows: First prize $2000, Second prize $1000, Third prize $500, Fourth prize $250 and Fifth - Tenth is $200 each. The total prize money is $4,950 and if all tickets are sold, we will raise $5000.00 for the Trust. The drawing will be held on **March 31st, 2021**. Please let John know if you are interested in purchasing a ticket or if a group of you want to pitch in together to get one like we have done previously with the Pot of Gold drawing. **Contact John** jromano45@gmail.com (617) 750-9749.

**Scholarships**

**Wilmington Sons of Italy Scholarships –** Our lodge scholarships are available to children entering college in the fall of 2021. **Parents** of these children must have been members of our lodge for 4 years. Our Graduate scholarships are available to any member who has been a member for **6 years** and entering Graduate school in the fall of 2021. For applications and more information please contact Karen Scalzi (978-423-0960) or e-mail kcscalzi@gmail.com. Applications for this award must be received/postmarked no later than **April 1st, 2021**.

**Grand Lodge** – The Scholarship Commission of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts through the Charitable and Educational Trust will award a minimum of twenty (20) scholarships, at a maximum of $1,000.00 each to properly qualified students who anticipate entering college in the fall of 2021.

 Scholarship Awards are limited to members of the Senior Class of any secondary school planning to attend an accredited four-year degree granting institution (except for the vocational/technical award to be granted, which may be a two-year degree or certificate granting institution) in the fall of 2021.

Scholarships will be awarded to both affiliates and non-affiliates:

* Affiliate Applicants are members, in good standing, of the Junior Division or Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for a minimum of two years, or the child or grandchild of a member, in good standing, of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for at least two years at the time the application is filed.
* Non-Affiliate Applicants are those that do not meet the above Affiliate criteria.
* Applications will be processed into these categories by the Scholarship Commission based on the information provided on the application and verification against the Grand Lodge membership records.
* One principal award shall be granted to a properly qualified student planning to pursue their education in a recognized and accredited vocational or technical school, which may be a two-year degree or certificate granting institution.

The 2021 Application can be downloaded from our **website (www.osiama.org**). Or you may contact **Karen Scalzi** for a copy **(978-423-0960) or e-mail** kcscalzi@gmail.com.

NOTE THAT PREVIOUS VERSIONS OF THE APPLICATION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!

Deadline is APRIL 15, 2021.

A Letter from Our President

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Finally, there is some light at the end of the tunnel.  I truly hope that you and your families are doing well and continue to be safe and healthy.  I am extremely excited as I am scheduled to get my first shot of the Vaccine this week.  It looks like we will be able to get together sometime later this year!

 I want to say a big CONGRATULATIONS to incoming President Sue Connors and her Council!  I look forward to working closely with her to continue with making our Lodge the best in the State!  I ask that you give as much help and support to Sue as you gave to me over the last 4 years!

 I hope that you all will support the Diaper Drive for Gifts of Love the weekend of March 27th and 28th, details are in the newsletter.  Hopefully, you can stop by one of the days and make a donation of diapers or wipeys or even a small cash donation of any amount.  Come by with the Kids to see the Easter Bunny.

I also want to say Buona Pasqua – Happy Easter to everyone as this is the last newsletter prior to Easter Sunday.

 Lastly, I would like to remind everyone that if me or my council can be of any help as we continue to work our way through the pandemic, give me a call or send an email and we will do our best to try to help.

See you soon!

 Regards,

John

(617) 750-9749 Jromano45@gmail.com

The **Grand Lodge** of Massachusetts is pleased to announce our annual **Calendar Raffle**, which will be held during **June 2021**. This fundraiser helps to support the Grand Lodge and provides your lodge with an excellent incentive to raise funds, as $3.00 of every ticket sold by your lodge will be reimbursed to you via a per capita credit.

 Here is how it works:

• A $20.00 ticket purchase gives you 34 chances to win a share of $6,400.00.

• There will be a drawing every day in June 2021 with prizes ranging from $125.00 - $600.00 (see daily prize amounts below).

• Four “early-bird” drawings of $125.00 will take place from all tickets received at the Grand Lodge office on or before May 15, 2021.

• All winning tickets are placed back in the drum for the next drawing.

• A list of daily winners will be posted on the Grand Lodge website ([www.osiama.org](http://www.osiama.org))

Prizes $600 on first and last day. $125 daily. $250 on Saturdays. $300 on Sundays.

**John has tickets. Contact John** jromano45@gmail.com (617) 750-9749

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**Sunshine** – Report sunshine information to Joan Foresteire (978-658-6284)



**We send our best wishes to our members with February Birthdays and Anniversaries!**



We send our Prayers and Get Well wishes to Brent Johnson, Lee Farra and Joe Maiella.



Congratulations to Susan and Anthony Tocci on the birth of their granddaughter, Chloe Elizabeth Searles.



We send our condolences to Lennie and Lucille Malvone, on the death of Lucille’s cousin, Edward Sacco.



***\*\*\*\* Note from the Recording Secretary*** – Please **remember** to send e-mail or address **changes** to Lynne\_martell@comcast.net or call me (978-694-1632) with any address changes if you do not have e-mail.