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*Wilmington Sons and Daughters of Italy*  
**Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli Lodge**  
LODGE 2183 – P.O. BOX 387 – WILMINGTON, MA 01887

<http://www.wilmingtonsoi.org> facebook - Angelo Roncalli Lodge Order Sons of Italy [Twitter](#) @SOI01887

**June 2025 Newsletter**

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Patricia Romano

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Betty Sandquist

**6/25/25 (Wednesday)** monthly meeting will be held at the Fellowship Hall of the United Methodist Church - 87 Church St - Wilmington, MA. Dinner will be BBQ - hamburgers, hotdogs, sausages, Greek Orzo and regular salad for \$5. Dinner will begin at 6:30pm followed by the meeting at 7:30pm. **Please RSVP by Wednesday 6/18/25 to [Lynne\\_martell@comcast.net](mailto:Lynne_martell@comcast.net) or 978-694-1632 or 978-729-6044(cell)**

**Please sign the attendance book** when you come to a meeting. There is no cost to sign the book, and your name will be entered into the gift card raffle - free of charge. The 50/50 raffle is \$1 for three tickets and is optional.

**Sons & Daughters of Italy Events**

06/19 - 06/22/25 - Grand Lodge Convention

06/27/25 - Wilmington Lodge **Dinner on the Common** for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festivities

07/09/25 - Wilmington Lodge **Bocce** begins

08/20/25 - Wilmington Lodge **Clam Bake** (flyer attached)

09/06/25 - Wilmington Lodge & Band Parents **Yard Sale** (save the date)

10/10/25 - Italian Heritage **Golf Tournament** (save the date)

10/11/25 - Wilmington Lodge **Italian Heritage Concert** (save the date)

10/19/25 - Wilmington Lodge **Car Show** (save the date)

11/16/25 - Wilmington Lodge **Memorial mass** (save the date)

**Lodge Meetings -4<sup>th</sup> Thursday** of every month at the United Methodist Church - 87 Church St. - Wilmington, MA. **Socializing and Dinner begin at 6:30pm. Even if you are not planning to eat dinner, come early, and socialize with your brothers and sisters of the lodge.** Coffee and desserts are available for all members to enjoy.

**6/25/25 (Wednesday) (no July meeting) 8/28/25 9/25/25 10/23/25**

**11/20/25 (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday) (no December meeting)**

**Council Meetings -2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday** of every month 7PM at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Building.  
**(no July meeting) 8/14/25 9/11/25 10/9/25 11/13/25 12/11/25**

**Plastic cap collection - JUNE WILL BE THE FINAL COLLECTION** - Paul and Debbie Cipriani have a granddaughter in Michigan who is a Girl Scout and is collecting plastic caps to be recycled into benches. They can be any plastic caps, any color from water bottles, pill bottles, etc. We would like to help her by collecting caps.



Contact Janet Engrem for pickup of caps. [jkje@comcast.net](mailto:jkje@comcast.net) 617-957-2460

**Donation requests 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>



Our Lodge supported Wilmington's Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> grade Italian field trip to the North End on June 5, 2025.

"Grazie for your support with this trip, I'm including a link to Pictures"

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ONUGFCNcrhIFgsu5SAy6vUGH\\_bGXukTaYWoHv\\_3UU4Q/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ONUGFCNcrhIFgsu5SAy6vUGH_bGXukTaYWoHv_3UU4Q/edit?usp=sharing)

**Building Re-Use Committee Public Forum** - John read the following at the Building Re-Use Committee Public Forum on May 14, 2025.

The Wilmington Sons and Daughters of Italy Lodge was founded in 1967. We have been serving the Town for almost 60 years and are proud members of the community.

The Sons and Daughters of Italy have been extremely generous to the Town and our fellow neighbors over those years. I want to highlight a few major donations we have made to the Town over that time:

- The funding of the electronic scoreboard for WHS Football Field, Baseball Field, Lacrosse Field (at Woburn Street School)
- A DARE police car
- A Handicap Accessible Van for the Senior Center
- 2 Thermal imaging devices for the Wilmington Fire Department
- A pickup truck for the Chief of the Wilmington Fire Department
- Batting cages for the Wilmington High school baseball and softball teams
- Stadium jackets and Parade Helmets for the Wilmington High School Band
- \$50,000 for a playground at the North Intermediate school
- \$50,000 for a playground at the Woburn Street school.
- AED WHS (2009) and \$1000.00 to WOW for AEDs (2018)
- Wilmington Memorial Library to sponsor the Aquarium pass (2004 - 2025).
- Wilmington Unified School Day Games – Special Olympics (2019) WHS Football, Baseball, Softball, Hockey, Track teams, Lacrosse, Volleyball, Golf shirts Uniforms

- Five Blocking Pads for the WHS football team
- Chamber of Commerce - a sponsor of the Ice Sculptures at the tree lighting ceremonies in Wilmington and Tewksbury.
- \$5000 to repair Gazebo on the Town Common
- Meals for First Responders during COVID.(2020)
- Sponsor Annual Wilmington Sons of Italy Wrestling Tournament for 39 years (1986 – 2025)
- \$500.00 to the Wilmington Recreation Department to purchase candy for the Horribles Parade. 2003-2025
- Yearly Sponsor of Wilmington Little League
- Purchased the Welcome to Wilmington Sign on the Town Common
- Sponsored School PACs Ice Cream Socials for several years
- iPods for Vets (2017 – 2025)
- Wilmington Food Bank (quarterly donation)(2017 – 2023)
- Sponsored WCTV to be a “powered by” sponsor for their docuseries entitled “Under the Lights” 2023
- \$100,000.00 for Wilmington Pavillion (2018)

On top of that list, we provide donations on a yearly basis to virtually every sports support group in town, totaling thousands of dollars. We also provide donations to all the churches in town at Thanksgiving and Christmas to help those in need. For the last several years we have held a Diaper Drive in which we collected and donated over million diapers to those in need along with a similar number of wipes.

We also have donated tens of thousands of dollars to many Sons of Italy Charities like Alzheimer's Association, Cooley's Anemia Foundation, Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism as well as many charities that our members are involved in helping.

As you know, I have attended each of your committee meetings to date and I am very aware of the potential process going forward.

I wanted to again let this committee know that we appreciate all the time and hard work that you all have put in to date and will continue to put into this effort. I am here tonight with over 30 members of our lodge to express our interest in the Buzzell School as a place for our home, our future in the great Town of Wilmington. We ask that your recommendation to the Town Manager and the Board of Selectman be to not tear down this important building in our Town but to keep it up. We further ask that the Town Manager declare the building as surplus and put out an RFP for community groups in Town, who want the building, to respond to. Under this scenario the Town will not incur any of the large costs you all have brought forward at your meetings. And I can only speak for my organization, should we be chosen – we would make the building available to other groups – as scheduling permits. This would give other organizations/groups/sports teams or similar an opportunity to use the building as well, preserve an important building in town, and it can potentially give a permanent home to a long time extremely charitable organization.

As I stated previously, the Wilmington Sons and Daughters of Italy want this to be our home. We are not looking for just a space to rent or to use on occasion, we already do that and could continue to that in places like the new senior center, the library, or the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Building, etc.

We are very good neighbors because we live here, were not going anywhere – we have great relationships throughout the town. Having the Buzzell School as our home will allow us to do more for the Town and for all of you.

Thank you for your time, and I look forward to participating in the rest of the process.

## June

**The 111<sup>th</sup> State Convention** – will be held on Thursday 06/19/25 through Sunday 06/22/25 at the Springfield Sheraton. There will be a **Pot of Gold Drawing**.



Tickets are \$100.00 each. Tickets can be purchased individually or with a group of friends. 1<sup>st</sup> prize = \$10,000.00; 2<sup>nd</sup> prize = \$1,000.00; 3<sup>rd</sup> prize = \$500.00; 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> prize = \$250.00.

Tickets may be obtained by contacting Cheryl Caira [cal0701@yahoo.com](mailto:cal0701@yahoo.com) 508-633-2779. Each ticket sold by our lodge we receive \$5.00 off or our per capita bill.





**4th of July on the Common** - Our lodge will host a dinner on Friday 6/27/25. 5pm - 7pm. We will serve meatball subs, chips, soda and dessert for \$11.00. Tickets must be purchased through the 4<sup>th</sup> of July committee.. Bring your family and friends to help raise funds for our lodge.



## July



**Wilmington Lodge Summer Bocce** - will begin on **Wednesday, July 9th**. It will run for **eight weeks** throughout the summer culminating in an end of the year tournament to crown a League Champion. The games are played on Wednesday evenings at 6:15 or 7:15 at Jack Cushing's House - 72 Middlesex Ave in Wilmington. (Members only). Our lodge will cover the cost. **Contact Lisa Mastrorilli** [lisamastorilli@msn.com](mailto:lisamastorilli@msn.com) 978-604-2909 or **Dedi Pitzi** [dedipitzi@gmail.com](mailto:dedipitzi@gmail.com) 978-430-3375.

## August



**Wilmington Lodge Clam Bake** - will be held on **Wednesday, August 20, 2025** at Foster's Clambake and Catering - 5 Axholme Road, York, ME 03909. Arrival 11:30 AM, Lunch from 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM  
\$46.00 per person for single lobster, or chick or vegetarian  
\$56.00 for double lobster

**Menu:** New England Clam Chowder, Freshly Dug Maine Clams, Cultivated Mussels, Succulent Maine Lobster, Sweet Corn on the Cob, Roasted Bliss Potatoes and Onions, Rolls and Butter, Hot Drawn Butter, Blueberry Crumb Cake and Beverages.

**Entrée Alternatives:** *Vegetarian Entrée of Polenta with Roasted Vegetables, Marinara and Goat Cheese or Hickory BBQ Chicken is an alternative to Lobster.*

Clambake will be indoors, and entertainment will be provided. Please make checks payable to: Sons and Daughters of Italy, Wilmington no later than **Wednesday, August 6, 2025**. You may carpool or drive on your own; there are many fun things to do and see to make it a great day. For more information, you may **contact** Maria J. Graffeo - Pustizzi at [mjgraffeo@yahoo.com](mailto:mjgraffeo@yahoo.com).

**Italian Heritage Dinner Show** - **Saturday, October 11, 2025** - The Wilmington Sons and Daughters of Italy, together with the Winchester Ladies Lodge, will be presenting an evening of dinner and music featuring entertainer Luciano Sandro Russo. Menu (served family style): Chicken soup, Cheese ravioli in Italian sauce, Roast top sirloin and baked stuffed chicken, roasted potatoes, buttered carrots, hot apple crisp with whipped cream. It will be held at the Winchester Lodge - 117 Swanton St - Winchester, MA. Doors open at 6:30PM, show starts at 7:00pm, dinner served at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$60 pp, Checks payable to Winchester Sons & Daughters of Italy. Tickets are limited and will NOT be sold at the door. Contact Mary Renda - 781-696-2730 [mrrenda12@gmail.com](mailto:mrrenda12@gmail.com) and Michele 978-604-6437, [mnorton@gmail.com](mailto:mnorton@gmail.com)





Please report any sunshine to Anna Kerkorian. Please **let Anna know if someone** is sick, has surgery, or has a death in the family. Also good news such as births, weddings, etc. Anna's contact information is 617-605-4662 or e-mail [amvk77@gmail.com](mailto:amvk77@gmail.com)



We send our "**PRAYERS AND GET WELL**" wishes to Ed Palino, Mary Kiesinger, Kevin Caira, Deb Casey, Grace Mullens, Sheryl Farrar, Frank Puleo, Joan Foresteire, Elizabeth Roberts, Maria Gemellaro, Barbara DeStefano.



We send our condolences to Patti Provenzano on the death of her husband, Frank.



**Happy June Birthday to** - Matthew Botte, Ann Carideo, Paul Cipriani, Lucille Clark, Kevin Engrem, Nickolas Gorham, Thomas Gorham, Gail Jackson, Frank Leverone, Patricia Lyon, Katelyn Otis, Joseph Peluso, Anna Rainone, Karen Scalzi, Carolyn Sullivan, Paul Tivnan, Anthony Tocci, Jaelyn Walsh, Gail Jackson, Elizabeth Aprile, Charles Eddy.



Congratulations to Charles DeStefano in being elected Knight of the Year for 2024-2025 by the Knights of Columbus Bishop Ruocco Council.

Congratulations to Christian Bolanos on receiving our graduate scholarship in memory of Jerry Pupa!



Please let me know if you have any **GOOD NEWS** that I can share with the lodge - **anything that we can celebrate!**

Please send any address or e-mail changes to [Lynne\\_martell@comcast.net](mailto:Lynne_martell@comcast.net) or 978-729-6044 (cell) 978-694-1632 (home).