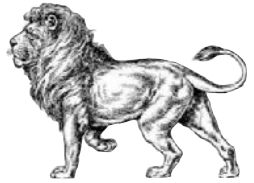


# THE LION'S ROAR



## AMERICA LODGE #2245



VFW Hall  
68 Lincoln Road  
Franklin Square, NY 11010

LIBERTY EQUALITY FRATERNITY

Volume 54  
Issue 7  
July 2025



# AMERICA LODGE # 2245

## 2024-2026 OFFICERS

President	Joseph Armocida	646-879-2842
Vice President	Karen Mollish	516-437-3278
2nd Vice President	Mary Versaci	516-270-3482
Immediate Past President	Andrew Monteleone	516-784-9142
Orator	Ellen Andrasick	516-317-0686
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## TRUSTEES

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Nancy Caracciolo  
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## MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Luigi Pinto  
Alfred Pittella

## NEW YORK STATE GRAND LODGE

### PAST PRESIDENTS

\*Joseph Montemarano  
Carolyn Reres

## OSDIA NATIONAL TRUSTEE

Carolyn Reres

## AMERICA LODGE #2245

### PAST PRESIDENTS

Joseph Montemarano* '71-'73	Anthony Arena '97-'99
Peter Lanciotti * '74-75	Carolyn Reres '99-'2001
Matthew Nizza* '76-77	Barbara Giorandino* '01-'03
Salvatore Palmeri* '78-'80	Jo Zanghi* '03-'05
Herbert Capitolo* '81-'83	Frank Rossi* '05-'07
Charles Barragato* '83-'85	Joseph Giglio* '07-'09
Joseph DiGennaro* '85-'87	Doris Collins* '09-'11
Philip Friedlander '87-'89	Marty Raia* '11-'12
Frank Rossi* '89-'91	Doris Collins* '12-'13
Doris Collins* '90-'92	Sylvia Giglio '13-'15
Marie Pacacha Vooris '93	Gloria R. Maffettone '16-'18
Gloria R. Maffettone '93-'95	Vincent Giordano '18-'20
Christian Seidel* '95-'97	

\*deceased



## COMMITTEES

Annual Christmas Party	Maria Passalacqua	516-456-3078
Annual Dinner Dance	Andrew Monteleone	516-784-9142
Annual Fishing Trip	Andrew Monteleone	516-784-9142
Annual Picnic	Maria Passalacqua	516-456-3078
Bocce Club	Marie Geneva Frank	516-852-1276
Bocce Club	Cindy Lampasi	516-690-1085
Book Club/Movie Night	Mary Sperrazza	516-993-8453
Bowling Tournament	Angela Pinto	516-775-1713
Budget Chairperson	Maria Passalacqua	516-456-3078
Columbus Parade	Dennis Lyons	516-481-2077
CSJ Executive Board	Janis Parazzelli	516-358-1409
CSJ Liaison	Jean Fichtl	516-354-6488
Dinner Dance Journal	Debra Goldmann	516-729-7712
Dinner Party/Pasta Night	Karen Mollish	516-437-3278
Gift of Sight	Jean Fichtl	516-354-6488
Good & Welfare	Tiziana Brugellis	516-491-7785
Grand Lodge Plenary	Andrew Monteleone	516-784-9142
Hospitality	Angela Pinto	516-775-1713
Lion's Roar Ads	Ellen Andrasick	516-317-0686
Mah Jongg	Lisa Teitz	516-965-8465
Membership	Jo Ann Maggio	516-850-5288
Memorial Mass	Josephine Carbone	516-483-7320
Opera	Jo Falabella	516-354-2989
Post Office Box	Angela Pinto	516-775-1713
Scholarship	Mary Rose O'Hara	516-521-6275

## ARBITRATION

Past President Sylvia Giglio, Joseph Camolli, Sally Nicoletti, Mary Sperrazza, Alternates: Jo Raia, Angelo LaVeglia, Phyllis Ann O'Connell.

## THE LION'S ROAR NEWSLETTER

Editor - Donna Johnson [mdjohnson1020@gmail.com](mailto:mdjohnson1020@gmail.com)  
Content and Proofreaders - Donna and Mark Johnson  
Printer - Richard Farruggia  
Mailing - Ellen Andrasick

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America®  
America Lodge #2245  
PO Box 337, Franklin Square, New York 11010  
President: Joseph Armocida 646-879-2842  
[joearmocida@aol.com](mailto:joearmocida@aol.com)  
Vice President: Karen Mollish 516-437-3278  
[ckcmm7091@aol.com](mailto:ckcmm7091@aol.com)

**Facebook: America Lodge #2245**  
**[www.Americallodge2245.com](http://www.Americallodge2245.com)**

**America Lodge's mission is to celebrate our Italian culture and heritage by honoring our ancestors' visions of promoting, educating, supporting our members, and giving back to our communities. Joining together we create excitement, strengthen our bonds and advance the image of Italians everywhere.**



## President's Message

Fresh on the heels of the Grand Lodge's 117<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention in Albany, I am so proud of America Lodge and the things that we have achieved. Our growth, strength and commitment found America Lodge seated in the front row amongst the 56 other lodges from New York. This is a position of great honor, and we felt incredibly humbled to have received such distinction. But America Lodge had yet another distinction awaiting. It brings me great joy to announce our Lion's Roar was voted **BEST NEWSLETTER** in New York. This gives me even greater pride knowing that our beloved Charter Member Cathy Palmeri, whom we laid to rest last month, and who was the first editor of our Lion's Roar, began a tradition of excellence that continues even today, some 54 years later, with our current Editor Donna Giorandino Johnson. Donna has received numerous accolades and awards for her newsletter and as we know, they are all well deserved. Congratulations to our incredible newsletter team and thank you for keeping America Lodge well informed, as we continue to celebrate our amazing Italian culture and heritage.

Happy Birthday America!! July 4<sup>th</sup> is a day that we celebrate our independence. A day we get together with family and friends to enjoy a BBQ and watch fireworks. On behalf of your dedicated and hard-working officer team, I want to wish everyone a happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July!

June was a month that we honored our best and brightest students with scholarship awards. As I noted last month, three of our members children and grandchildren, were recipients of the Grand Lodge scholarships. They are Olivia Giordano, Elena Moryl, and Alaina Pinto. And at America Lodge, we are so proud to also have had three winners who were announced and present at our June meeting. They are Elena Moryl, Alaina Pinto, and Ashley Mormando. It was truly impressive listening to what they have accomplished and what their plans are. In addition to these scholarships, our scholarship committee visited our local high schools and gave out seven scholarships to students studying Italian language.

On June 7<sup>th</sup> we held a membership drive during the Franklin Square Chamber of Commerce Spring Fair. Despite the weather, we were able to get some new prospects. We were protected from the elements by a membership tent, identified by our feather flag, celebrated by our two posters, remembered with our give-away pens and supported by our devoted members ready, willing and able to discuss the strengths of America Lodge and the advantages of joining our big Italian family. Thank you to the Grand Lodge for use of the membership tent and our dedicated members who really made us stand out!

I am really looking forward to our upcoming events, our **fishing trip on August 9<sup>th</sup>** and our **picnic on September 6<sup>th</sup>**. Both events are a great opportunity to get together with our fellow lodge members and friends. They always sell out fast so see the flyers in the newsletter to make your reservations now! You can also view them on our website and click the links which will generate an email to the event chair. Just provide your information and how many spots to reserve and you will be all set. Also on our website you will see a flyer for our **54<sup>th</sup> annual dinner dance on October 19<sup>th</sup>**. This will be one event you won't want to miss, with the distinction of excellence these honorees bring to the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America. Please mark your calendars as invitations will be going out shortly.

Stay cool and I'll see you at our next event!

Fraternally,

Joe

2023, 2025 Best Newsletter in NY!

2024 Most Informative Newsletter in NY!

## WELCOME TO YOUR JULY NEWSLETTER!



Bittersweet. As we welcome July and the 249<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our nation's freedom, and the gracious recognition from our Grand Lodge for once again being awarded the **Best Newsletter in New York**, I am saddened by the sudden loss of my beloved sister, Christine, on June 26<sup>th</sup>. You see, July 11<sup>th</sup> would have been her 58<sup>th</sup> birthday. Instead of having a huge birthday party, we will be laying her to rest in eternal peace on July 12<sup>th</sup>. So please grant me this one wish as I would like to dedicate this issue of your newsletter to her.

The **117<sup>th</sup> Grand Lodge convention** was held in Albany June 26-29 and what a grand affair it was! America Lodge was honored to receive front row seating as a nod and acknowledgement to our growth, success and strength. Our magnificent Grand Lodge said farewell to our Worthy Outgoing President Biagio Isgro and hosted an incredible ceremony to welcome our new State President Arthur Spera. We will have more information about Arthur in this issue. The Grand Lodge also welcomed in a new slate of officers to help guide and support us over these next two years.

Do you remember last year's July issue where we wrote about our nation's flag and how a school project helped create those 50 stars? Well, this issue builds on our flag and has the very first Columbus Day on October 21, 1892, to thank for it. It was Columbus Day when 10,000 school children from across the country came together to voice an oath we have recited thousands of times. Read more about it in this issue.

Were you able to attend our June General meeting? If not, we have lots of photos celebrating our three scholarship winners. These distinguished young ladies are just beginning to make their mark on the world, and America Lodge is honored to help support them in their journey!

Summer is a great time to enjoy the outdoors, whether at the beach, by the pool or on Long Island's beautiful waters. If you enjoy summertime reading, why not join our **book club**? What's a Thursday without **Bocce** in Rath Park? Meet us at 5:00 for some exercise and friendly Italian competition. Is it too hot during these July summer days? Why not join us in the air-conditioned comfort of the Franklin Square library to play **Mah-Johngg**. Feel like singing? Join us for **Italian Night at Eisenhower Park** on July 28<sup>th</sup>. Have some free time? Why not be like Columbus and explore a whole new world which can be found on our website. We have all that and more in this issue.

Stay cool and enjoy your summer! ~Donna

LIBERTY AND  
JUSTICE  
FOR ALL



Happy  
4th  
of July!

## Membership Corner

by Membership Chairperson, Jo Ann Maggio



On June 7th, we had a Membership drive at the Franklin Square Chamber of Commerce Spring Fair and got the names of 3 potential members! We've already sent invitations to those interested, and we're excited to hear from them!

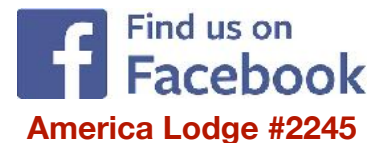
The summer months can be a bit slow for new members since many people travel and take time away from home. That's why it's even more important that we keep talking to our family, neighbors, friends, and co-workers about joining America Lodge #2245.

If you have any prospective new members, please reach out to Jo Ann Maggio at (516) 850-5288 or [madsav1128@yahoo.com](mailto:madsav1128@yahoo.com) for an application. You can also visit our website at [www.americ lodge2245.com/Membership](http://www.americ lodge2245.com/Membership). And if you're feeling neighborly, consider bringing a friend to our July 16th meeting!

Remember, new members are the key to keeping our Lodge vibrant and growing. So, let's spread the word and make sure we have a full house!



*Check out our Website and Facebook page! We post photos of our meetings and events, provide informative posts on our Italian Culture and Heritage and keep our members informed about Lodge and local events! Come log on and see what we're up to!*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **July 28, Italian Night at Eisenhower Park** featuring Giada Valenti. 7:00 pm.
- **August 9, America Lodge Annual Fishing Trip.** Contact Michael Avallone (917) 299-7251.
- **August 25, NYS OSDIA Annual State Golf Outing,** Town of Oyster Bay Golf Course; dinner to follow.
- **September 6, America Lodge Annual Picnic.** Contact Maria Passalacqua (516) 456-3078.
- **September 13, Gift of Sight Luncheon,** Verdi's of Westbury 12-4 pm.
- **October 11, LI Columbus Day Parade,** Lake Ave Firehouse, Deer Park.
- **October 19, America Lodge #2245 54th Anniversary Dinner Dance** at Leonards. Contact VP Karen Mollish (516) 852-2823 or IPP Andrew Monteleone (516) 784-9142.

# Good and Welfare

BUON COMPLEANNO!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR  
JULY "Luglio" CELEBRANTS!**

Joe Armocida, Joan Basta, Tiziana Brugellis,  
Gregory Cajuste, Ralph Esposito, Jean Fichtl,  
Rosetta Fiorello, Carl Gerrato, Christine Magliaro, Jodie Marinello,  
AnnMarie Monteleone, Chris Mollish, Mark Mrakovcic, Theresa Munda,  
Thomas Muscarella, Joseph Nicoletti, Diane Rizzo, Victor Rossi,  
Angela Salerno, Joseph Scaffa, Leonard Timpone, Luke Zahradka.

**OUR THOUGHTS ARE WITH YOU..**

Pina Carbone

Chris Mollish

Rose and Antonino Guarrasi

AnnMarie Monteleone

**Get well soon!**

**Our deepest condolences to**  
Mary Versaci and family,  
Donna and Mark Johnson and family.

America Lodge #2245 is proud to announce  
it's new website!

*check it out!*



Thank you for reading  
and  
visiting our website!



On 6/1/2025, your site had 73 page views.

[www.Americalodge2245.com](http://www.Americalodge2245.com)

## America Lodge wins Best Newsletter for 2025!

*Well deserved, Donna And Mark!*

*~Pierina Liberatoscioli*

*Congratulations on  
another job well done!*

*~ Fred Pitella*

*Congratulations Donna and Mark! You are  
the best, thank you. You deserve it! No  
other newsletters can compare with what  
you do. Thank you from all of us! ~Angela  
Pinto*

*They both deserve this Award, happy to see them recognized.  
Wonderful news for the Lodge. Congratulations Donna and Mark!*

*~Annette Koziarz*

*The Newsletter is great! Loved  
reading this Newsletter!*

*~IPP Andrew Monteleone*

*I love the Newsletter! Years ago, I worked in  
publishing and truly appreciate all of your  
hard work and attention to detail!! I look  
forward to reading it every month!*

*~Lisa Teitz*

Are you enjoying our Newsletter and the Website? Click

here and let us know!

**4<sup>TH</sup>  
OF** July

Thank you!!  
We love to hear from you!





## Did you know that our Pledge of Allegiance has its roots in Columbus Day?

[Wikipedia.com](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pledge_of_Allegiance) reports the first pledge was written in 1885 by Union Army Captain George Thatcher Balch. He wanted to teach school children about patriotism. But it was Francis Bellamy, from Mount Morris, New York, who revised Balch's version as part of a magazine promotion and made it to what we know today. The Youth's Companion was an American children's magazine, and they were trying to promote the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Christopher Columbus' voyage. As part of the very first Columbus Day celebration, the magazine sent leaflets containing The Pledge of Allegiance to schools all across America. On the first celebration of Columbus Day, October 21, 1892, 10,000 school children recited the verse together.

Congress adopted Bellamy's version of the pledge 50 years later in 1942 and the official name of The Pledge of Allegiance was adopted in 1945.

[VA.gov](https://www.va.gov) reports the thirty-one words which we say, affirms the values and freedom that the American flag represents. We recite it while facing the flag as a pledge of our loyalty to America. According to some accounts Bellamy decided to write it as a pledge, rather than a salute, because it was a stronger expression of loyalty — something particularly significant even 27 years after the Civil War ended.

We found an excellent analysis of [THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE](#)

<b>I Pledge Allegiance</b>	I promise to be faithful and true (promise my loyalty)
<b>to the Flag</b>	to the emblem that stands for and represents
<b>of the United States</b>	all 50 states and territories, each of them individual, and individually states represented on the flag
<b>of America</b>	yet formed into a union of one nation
<b>and to the Republic</b>	and I also pledge my loyalty to the government that is itself a Republic, a form of government where the people are sovereign.
<b>for which it stands,</b>	this government also being represented by the Flag to which I promise loyalty.
<b>one Nation under God,</b>	The 50 individual states are united as a single Republic under the Divine providence of God.
<b>Indivisible,</b>	and cannot be separated
<b>with Liberty</b>	The people of this Nation being afforded the freedom to pursue "life, liberty, and happiness".
<b>and Justice</b>	And each person entitled to be treated justly, fairly and according to proper law and principle.
<b>for All.</b>	These principles afforded to every loyal American regardless of race, religion, creed or any other criteria.



**Happy 249th birthday to our independence, our freedoms, and our beautiful nation. America; land of the free, home of the brave.**

# Italian Culture and Heritage

## THE LITTLE FLOWER



New York City has seen several defining moments. Certainly, the Great Depression and World War II would be considered some of the most difficult of times. But it was New York City's 99th mayor, described as a pint-sized dynamo, ranked by a panel of 69 scholars in 1993 to be the best big city mayor in American history, who saw New York City through them. Fiorello Henry La Guardia, born to a family of Italian immigrants, and New York City's first Italian American mayor, left a legacy as a public servant dedicated to helping the city's residents.

He was called "the Little Flower" by adoring New Yorkers because he was only five foot two and always wore a carnation in his lapel. This NYU law grad, with a high-pitched voice, described by some contemporaries as a falsetto and by others as a screech, opened his law practice in 1909 with \$6 in his pocket. La Guardia's goal as a lawyer was not to get rich; rather, he worked to build a base of supporters for his future ventures into politics. He was elected a congressman in 1917 and 1923 and served as mayor from 1934 - 1946. La Guardia remains the longest serving mayor in New York City history.

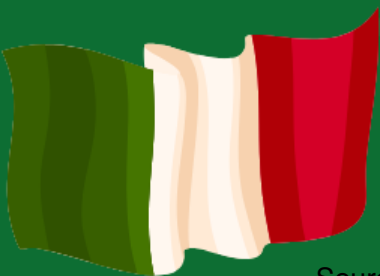
Described as a hands-on mayor, La Guardia could be seen decked out in his own fire helmet, riding the back of a hook and ladder truck to fires. He personally inspected buildings, and during the newspaper strike, he acted out comic characters while reading "the funnies" on radio. He took on organized crime by smashing slot machines and tossing them into the East River. He banned Italian American organ grinders from the streets to wipe out negative stereotypes. A man of the people, La Guardia could deliver speeches in English, German, Italian, Hungarian, Croatian, and Yiddish.

Under La Guardia's leadership, New York City undertook a massive construction program, unrivaled by anything before or since. The current city highway system is largely the creation of his administration, including the completion of the Triborough Bridge, the Queens-Midtown Tunnel, the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel, the Belt Parkway, the Henry Hudson Parkway, and the East River Drive.

La Guardia also extended the small, city-owned independent Subway System into the Bronx, Brooklyn, and Queens with the construction of what are now the A, B, C, D, E, F, and G lines. He then took over the two large, privately operated subway systems and merged everything to create the modern, publicly owned mass transit system (MTA). He built our first municipal airport, named after him, the 17th busiest airport in the US by number of flights, just six miles from Times Square.

Mayor La Guardia launched the largest, and one of the most successful, public housing programs in the country. In 1934, the city created the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA). The La Guardia public works not only brought new comforts and services to working people, they were also a massive employment program during the depths of the worst depression the country had faced. La Guardia saw no contradiction between the need to create jobs quickly and elevating civic standards by offering working people not minimal amenities and services, but the best possible.

His administration was characterized by energetic leadership and a commitment to combating corruption and improving city services. Despite facing challenges, including internal conflicts and shifts in public sentiment, La Guardia's legacy is that of a public servant dedicated to helping the city's residents, believing only a well-fed, well-housed, well-schooled people can enjoy the blessings of liberty.



Source: [How Mayor Fiorello La Guardia Transformed New York City](#)  
[Italian American Mayors of NYC - La Gazzetta Italiana](#)

At the Grand Lodge's 117<sup>th</sup> convention, we were privileged to witness the Installation of **Arthur Spera** as Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America's (OSDIA) 37<sup>th</sup> New York State President.

## **America Lodge-meet your new State President!**



Arthur was born in Brooklyn and raised in Deer Park. He graduated from Deer Park High School in 1975. Arthur excelled in music and received a music scholarship from Kansas University but declined this offer, choosing to study locally instead. He met his future wife, Joanne, in 1976 and they got married in 1980. They raised three children, Janeen, Paul and Joseph in North Babylon.

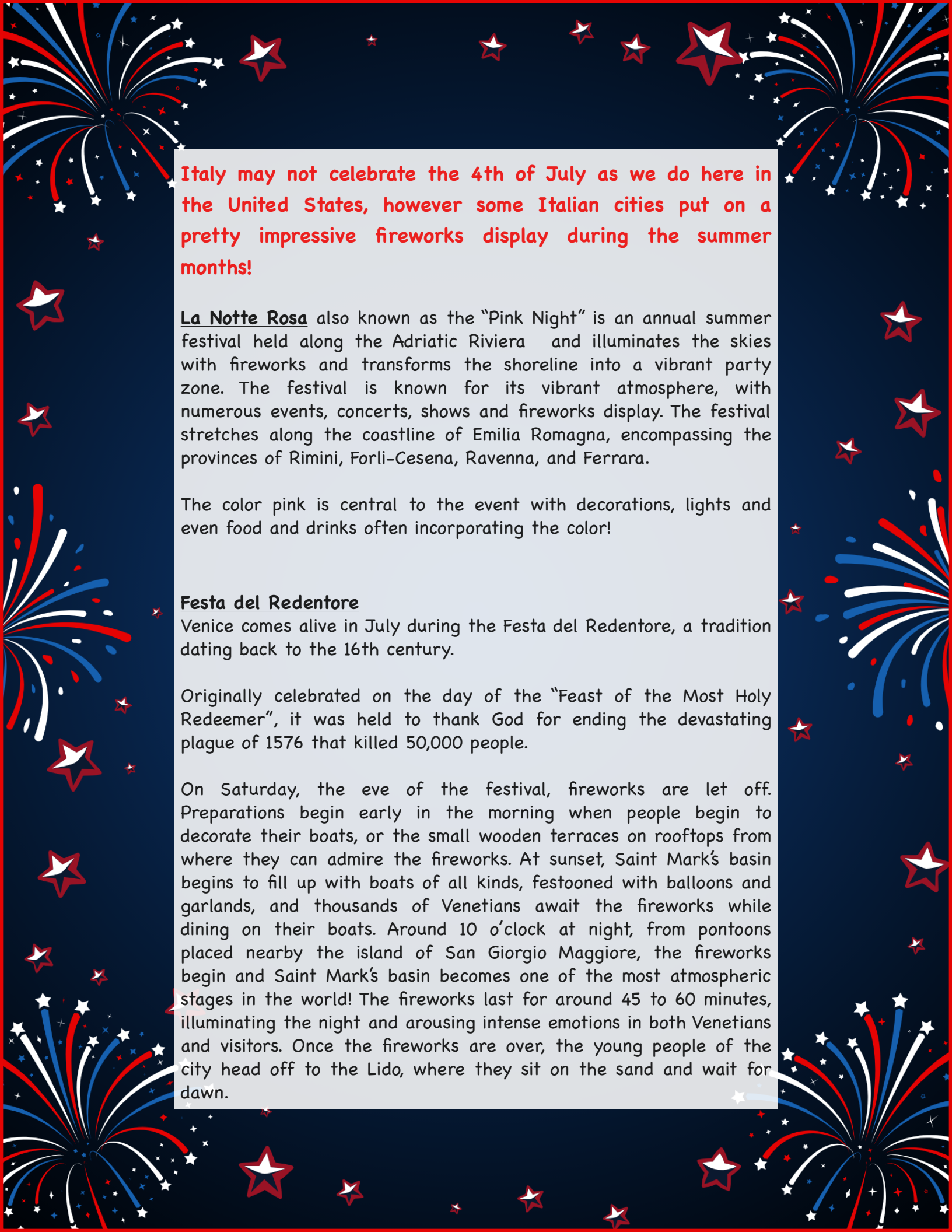
Arthur was employed in the trucking industry since 1978 and retired after 46 years of service in 2024. He has been a member of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters for 25 years, and a member of the International Association of Machinists (IAM) for 17 years. Arthur served as shop steward for 16 years and was heavily involved in union affairs with the IAM. He negotiated multiple union contracts and was responsible for equal pay policies, overtime after 8 hours and enrolling the company in a multi-employer pension fund.

Arthur's involvement in the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America began in 1980. He joined the Constantino Brumidi Lodge in 1987 and became a Lodge Officer in 1989 when his father Ted was Lodge President. He moved through the ranks of the Lodge until he became President in 1999. Arthur then became a State Trustee in 2001 serving five years, under the presidency of Joseph DiTrapani. He was Chairman of the Garibaldi Meucci Museum for 3 years (1994-1997) under State President Joseph Sciame. He has assisted with numerous State Committees throughout the years and has been a convention delegate since 1993. In 2014, Arthur was appointed Principal Trustee by State President Joseph Rondinelli. Within the Grand Lodge, he was elected to positions of State Treasurer, State Corresponding Secretary, State Recording Secretary, State 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, State 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and now President. He has been a National Delegate since 2015 and has aided in many committees at the National level. In 2018, Arthur transferred to the Vigiano Bros. Lodge #3436 in Port Jefferson where he operated as their first State Deputy.

In 2004, the Spera family was awarded the NYS OSDIA Family of the Year Award, an achievement which they are very proud of as it recognizes their entire family's accomplishments. Arthur and his father Ted had already been Lodge Presidents, and his mother Teena, wife Joanne, and Aunt Carol Nani had been Presidents of the Ladies Auxiliary. And all their children were members of the OSDIA. An active and dedicated family indeed.

Arthur is ever mindful and proud of his Italian heritage, and he is a true Son of Italy. He is an Italian American role model for all to admire. Arthur is eager to begin his new role as State President and will remain committed to the New York Grand Lodge and the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America for many years to come.

We at America Lodge want to wish Arthur and his entire slate of officers all the best as they continue the Grand Lodge's mission of upholding the values of our Italian ancestors, promoting unity within our community, and preserving our rich cultural heritage.



Italy may not celebrate the 4th of July as we do here in the United States, however some Italian cities put on a pretty impressive fireworks display during the summer months!

**La Notte Rosa** also known as the "Pink Night" is an annual summer festival held along the Adriatic Riviera and illuminates the skies with fireworks and transforms the shoreline into a vibrant party zone. The festival is known for its vibrant atmosphere, with numerous events, concerts, shows and fireworks display. The festival stretches along the coastline of Emilia Romagna, encompassing the provinces of Rimini, Forli-Cesena, Ravenna, and Ferrara.

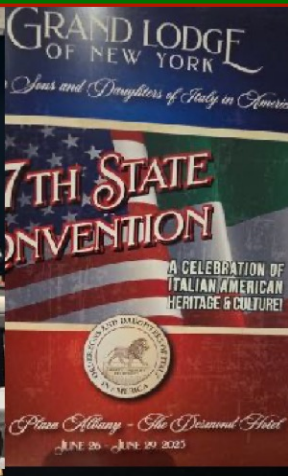
The color pink is central to the event with decorations, lights and even food and drinks often incorporating the color!

### **Festa del Redentore**

Venice comes alive in July during the Festa del Redentore, a tradition dating back to the 16th century.

Originally celebrated on the day of the "Feast of the Most Holy Redeemer", it was held to thank God for ending the devastating plague of 1576 that killed 50,000 people.

On Saturday, the eve of the festival, fireworks are let off. Preparations begin early in the morning when people begin to decorate their boats, or the small wooden terraces on rooftops from where they can admire the fireworks. At sunset, Saint Mark's basin begins to fill up with boats of all kinds, festooned with balloons and garlands, and thousands of Venetians await the fireworks while dining on their boats. Around 10 o'clock at night, from pontoons placed nearby the island of San Giorgio Maggiore, the fireworks begin and Saint Mark's basin becomes one of the most atmospheric stages in the world! The fireworks last for around 45 to 60 minutes, illuminating the night and arousing intense emotions in both Venetians and visitors. Once the fireworks are over, the young people of the city head off to the Lido, where they sit on the sand and wait for dawn.





# June General Meeting



# Congratulations Scholarship recipients





**BOCCE**



**IL DOLCE LIBRO BOOK CLUB EVENT AT SPUNTINO**



**MAH JONGG**

**AMERICA LODGE PAST  
PRESIDENT, NYS  
GRAND LODGE PAST  
PRESIDENT, AND  
NATIONAL TRUSTEE  
CAROLYN RERES  
ALONG WITH  
NATIONAL PRESIDENT  
MICHAEL POLO  
ATTEND 120TH OSDIA  
ANNIVERSARY IN NYC**





## **AMERICA LODGE #2245 ANNUAL FISHING TRIP**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 2025**

Once again, America Lodge will set sail on the beautiful Captain Eddie B III. We leave the dock at 7:00 am SHARP for a memorable 5-hour charter. This spectacular and fun-filled voyage will return at 12:00 pm and is open to all lodge members, family, and friends.

All fishing gear, tackle, and bait are included. No need to bait the hook or touch the fish, as the expert and friendly deck hands will take care of all that for you!

A delicious bagel breakfast and hero lunch are included! All you need to bring are your drinks and your camera...you know, to photograph "the one that got away."

### **DETAILS:**

**\$ ADULTS: \$75.00, CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER: \$35.00**

**🕒 7:00 AM SHARP - 12 NOON**

**📍 CAPTREE BOAT BASIN, CAPTAIN EDDIE B III  
<http://www.captaineb3.com>**

**📞 CONTACT Chairperson, Michael Avallone (917) 299-7251 or Co-Chairperson, Andrew Monteleone at (516) 784-9142 to reserve your spot!**



**AMERICA LODGE #2245**

**ANNUAL PICNIC  
IN THE PARK**

Join us at our Annual Picnic in the Park for an afternoon of relaxation, laughter, and connection with our Italian family!

**Raffle baskets  
and 50/50.**



**SAVE THE DATE !!**

**Saturday September 6, 2025**

**\$45.00 Per-  
person**

**1:00 pm - 5:00 pm**

**The Plattduetsche Park  
Restaurant**

For More Information  
contact:

**Maria Passalacqua  
(516) 456-3078**

includes hot buffet and soft drinks. Full bar available for purchase.

# *America Lodge #2245*

*54<sup>th</sup> Annual Anniversary Dinner Dance  
honoring*

*Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America®  
National 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Thomas Lupo,*

*New York State President  
Arthur Spera,*

*and*

*Donna Giorandino Johnson  
America Lodge #2245*

*Corresponding Secretary, Website creator and  
Award winning Newsletter Editor*

*at*

*Leonard's Palazzo*

*555 Northern Blvd*

*Great Neck, NY 11021*

*Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025*

*12:00-5:00 pm*

*\$125.00 per person*

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# The Lion's Roar Newsletter needs your help!

On July 18th, I will be undergoing surgery and may be unable to work on the August newsletter. Therefore, I would like to ask for assistance in completing the newsletter by seeking your submissions for articles! I have provided some starter ideas below and would love to see your creative contributions on these topics. If you have a topic you are passionate about that fits within our newsletter's theme, please feel free to propose it!

Please email your articles or any questions to Donna at [mdjohnson020@gmail.com](mailto:mdjohnson020@gmail.com).

To help us manage the editing process smoothly, we encourage you to submit your articles as early as possible before the July 18th deadline.

Thank you in advance for your valuable contributions and much appreciated assistance! Your support in making the August newsletter a success is greatly appreciated.

• **Italian Inventor**

• **Your Garden-growing any Italian veggies?**

• **August Holidays- in the US or Italy**

• **Summertime in Italy**

• **Member Spotlight**

**Have you been to Italy? Tell your story!**



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**Saturday, September 13, 2025**  
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**Mark A. Ventimiglia - Vice-Chair**

**Humanitarian Award - Mario & Pamela Cermele**

**GOS Excellence Award - Robert Graham**



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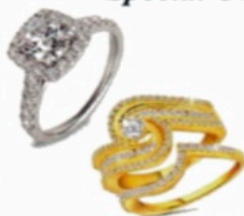


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