

ORDER SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA



SGT FREDERICK M. BONANNO - LODGE #2549

La Voce di Boca Raton



DECEMBER 2020

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501-C3 ORGANIZATION

Thursday December 17, 2020

Festa di Natale

Where: Frank and Dino's 39 SE 1st Street Boca Raton, FL (561) 218-4636

Time: 4:30 PM

Cost: \$32.00 including tax and tip. (Separate checks)

Menu Options Below. Chose one entrée below. Wine, Beer, Desert extra ! Non-alcohol beverages free.

All entrees include House or Caesar Salad.

Pasta, Chose one (no side dishes ): Ravioli della Nonna, Fegatini Sinatra, or Penne Alla Vodka.

or

Meat & Fish, Chose one, comes with one side: Penne Pomodoro, Mashed Potatoes or Fresh Steamed Broccoli.

Pollo or Veal Scaloppine: Either Marsala, Francese, Parmigiano, or Milanese.

Fresh Fish dishes at additional cost. Chose: Salmon Livornese or Alla Griglia Yellowtail- Dentice Francese or Dentice Origanato.

To reserve call Angie Torres-Catania at 787-221-0785



***DON CICCIO SAYS:***

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND INTRODUCE THEM TO OUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY

# SGT FREDERICK M. BONANNO LODGE #2549

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**Italian Cultural Historian:** Ed Mottola

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**Newsletter:** Ed Catania, Raf Gueli  
**Scholarship/Membership:** Ed Mottola Jr.  
**Cookbook & Calendars:** Ed Mottola Jr.  
**House:** Marjorie Miller  
**Service:**  
**Sunshine:** Angie Torres  
**501C3 Fundraising:** Nick Cantore, Ed Catania  
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# Message From The President JOAN D'AMATO



## Order Sons and Daughters of Italy

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I know Thanksgiving was different this year, but we are so grateful to our membership for their love and friendship.

As crazy as this world is now, the Sons and Daughters of Italy continues it work promoting our culture and heritage.

Each one of you is very special to us. Shortly, it will be time to renew your membership. I ask you to do this on a timely basis. If you don't renew, unfortunately we have no other choice but to remove you as a member. That means the emails will stop and all pertinent information will cease. Our Bonanno lodge has flourished for 36 years, and we need your support to continue our charter in helping others.

We are planning a Christmas get together. See the notice in this newsletter. The time is 4:30 pm when the restaurant is less crowded. There is a great selection of entrees. Review the flyer and call Angie.

On behalf of your hard-working Officers, Joe and I wish everyone the Blessings of a Christmas and joy and peace for you and your families



## Order Sons and Daughters of Italy

Cari fratelli e sorelle,

So che il Giorno del Ringraziamento è stato diverso quest'anno, ma siamo così grati ai nostri soci per il loro amore e amicizia.

Per quanto folle sia questo mondo, i Figli e le Figlie d'Italia continuano a lavorare per promuovere la nostra cultura e il nostro patrimonio. Ognuno di voi è molto speciale per noi.

Fra breve arriverà il momento di rinnovare la vostra sottoscrizione. Vi chiedo di farlo tempestivamente. Se non rinnovate, sfortunatamente non abbiamo altra scelta che rimuovervi come socio. Ciò significa che le nostre e-mail si fermeranno e tutte le informazioni pertinenti cesseranno. Il nostro lodge Bonanno prospera da 36 anni e abbiamo bisogno del vostro sostegno per continuare la nostra missione nell'aiutare gli altri.

Stiamo programmando un Natale per riunirci. Vedete l'avviso in questa newsletter. L'orario è alle 16:30 quando il ristorante è meno affollato. C'è un'ottima selezione di antipasti. Date uno sguardo al volantino e chiamate Angie.

A nome dei vostri validi funzionari del direttivo, Io e Joe auguriamo a tutti la benedizioni di un Santo Natale, con gioia e pace per voi e le vostre famiglie

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



If you wish to announce a special event, please send your Information to me no later than the 23rd of each month.

## JANUARY

- 14 Potluck Dinner Nominations
- 19 Charo

## FEBRUARY

- 11 Elections and Pizza
- 20 Jungle Queen River Boat Cruise and Dinner

## MARCH

- 10 Pasta Night Meeting
- 16 Calder Race Track and Casino
- 25 Sicilian Tenors

## APRIL

- 12 Mozzarella Cancelled
  - TBD Outside Event
- CANCELLED**

## MAY

- 12 Mozzarella Cancelled
  - TBD Outside Event
- CANCELLED**

## JUNE

- TBD Monday Lunch
- CANCELLED**

## JULY

- TBD Monday Lunch
- CANCELLED**

## AUGUST

- TBD Monday Lunch
- CANCELLED**

## SEPTEMBER

- 8 Zoom First Meeting

## OCTOBER

- 13 Zoom Meeting Columbus

## NOVEMBER

- 10 Veterans-Zoom

## DECEMBER

- 17 Christmas Festa Frank and Dino's, Boca

# BIRTHDAYS

AUGURI  
di  
BUON  
Compleanno



- 4 Robert Quillard
- 6 Michael Pruetti
- 18 Angeles Torres-Catania
- 21 Claudia Sylvester
- 30 Joseph Dente



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**SGT FREDERICK M. BONANNO - LODGE #2549**

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## **Please Pledge Your Support**

Your lodge, The Sgt. Frederick M. Bonanno Lodge #2549, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit fraternal organization of the Sons and Daughters of Italy in America, which began 115 years ago.

We have been supporting our Italian Culture, our Community, Veterans programs and our Italian Heritage. Our lodge came into existence over 36 years ago. And since then, has grown and thrived thanks to our treasured membership.

Every quarter we donate to our charities: Alzheimer's, Autism, Cancer and Cooley's Anemia. We continue with our scholarship programs. We carry on with our plan of action to Save Columbus Day and expanding The Italian Language in our High Schools. All of these important tasks require reinforcement from the Italian Consulate, FAU, and other important institutions.

As with so many other fraternal organizations, we have suffered a major financial set back due to the Covid 19 virus. It has literally, shut down all our fundraising operations, and we don't really know when things will go back to "normal". However, we are determined to continue all our involvement with our charities and other programs without interruption.

I am, personally, asking for your support in the way of a tax-deductible donation. I know you probably get many solicitation letters, as I do, but we cannot let our movement to carry on our support cease because of this pandemic. A contribution, in any amount, will be appreciated and a great help.

Please make checks out to Sgt Bonanno Lodge #2549 and mail to the post Office Box below.

Thank you for your generosity and please send this letter to your family and friends. We greatly appreciate your assistance and call if you have any questions.

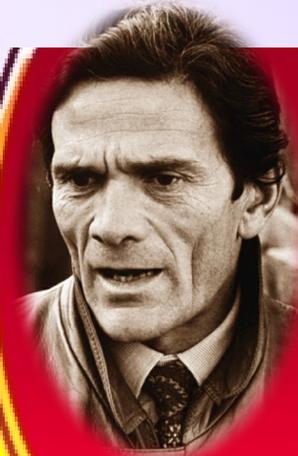
Fraternally Yours,

Joan D'Amato  
President

**501 (c) (3) Non-Profit Organization**  
PO Box 970101, Boca Raton, FL 33497-0101 - 561-414-1825



# Famous Italian Quotes



*“Once life is finished it acquires a sense; up to that point it has not got a sense; its sense is suspended and therefore ambiguous.”*

**Pier Paolo Pasolini**



*“Every production of an artist should be the expression of an adventure of his soul.”*

**Raffaello**



*“I asked God for a bike, but I know God does not work that way, so I stole a bike and asked him for forgiveness.”*

**Vito Corleone**



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**SAVE THE DATE**



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**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

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Pollo or Veal Scaloppine: Either Marsala, Francese, Parmigiano, or Milanese.

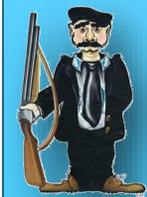
Fresh Fish dishes at additional cost. Chose: Salmon Livornese or Alla Griglia or Yellowtail- Dentice Francese or Dentice Origanato

**To reserve call Angie Torres-Catania at 787-221-0785**



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# COMMENDATORE EDWARD MOTTOLA JR.



STELLA  
D'ITALIA

*Sempre Avanti*



## LODGE COOKBOOK

Since 1991, when the Sons and Daughters of Italy members produced a cookbook with recipies submitted by the membership, over 100,000 copies of the book "From the Same Vine" were sold. Proceeds from the book sales have been placed in the State Florida Foundation and have produced numerous State scholarships over the past years as well as providing funds for our Charities, Autism, .Alzheimers, Cooleys Anemia and Cancer Funds.

As we enter the Christmas season our cook book makes a great gift for a family member ,friend, neighbor or yourself.

For further information of the purchase of our cook book please call book Chairman Ed Mottola at 561-479-2096.

## CALENDAR PROGRAM

On January 1,2021, the annual Grand Lodge of Florida 2021 Calendar program will begin and runs until the end of 2021. The calendar program is based on the Florida lottery's Pick Three game. When you buy a calendar, you pick three numbers. If your number comes out, you win \$50. But the best part, there's a whole list of 27 other days (below) when you can win much more. For example, if your number comes out on Christmas, you win \$1000. On Columbus Day, too.

Jan 1 - New Year's Day - \$500

Feb 8 - Grand Lodge Anniv - \$300

Feb 14 - Valentine's Day - \$100

Feb 15 - Presidents' Day - \$100

Mar 17 - St. Patrick's Day - \$100

Mar 19 - St. Joseph's Day - \$100

Mar 28 - Palm Sunday - \$100

Apr 2 - Good Friday - \$100

Apr 4 - Easter Sunday - \$1,000

Apr 24 - Dr. Salerno Birthday - \$100

May 9 - Mothers' Day - \$100

May 31 - Memorial Day - \$100

Jun. 2 - National Day of Italy - \$100

Jun. 14 - Flag Day - \$100

Jun 20 - Fathers' Day - \$100

Jun 22 - SOI Anniversary - \$300

Jul 4 - Independence Day - \$500

Sept 6 - Labor Day - \$100

Sept 11 - Patriot's Day - \$200

Sept 19 - Feast of San Gennaro - \$100

Oct 12 - Columbus Day - \$1,000

Oct 22 - Pres. Cianciotta's Birthday - \$100

Please call at 561-479-2096. with questions

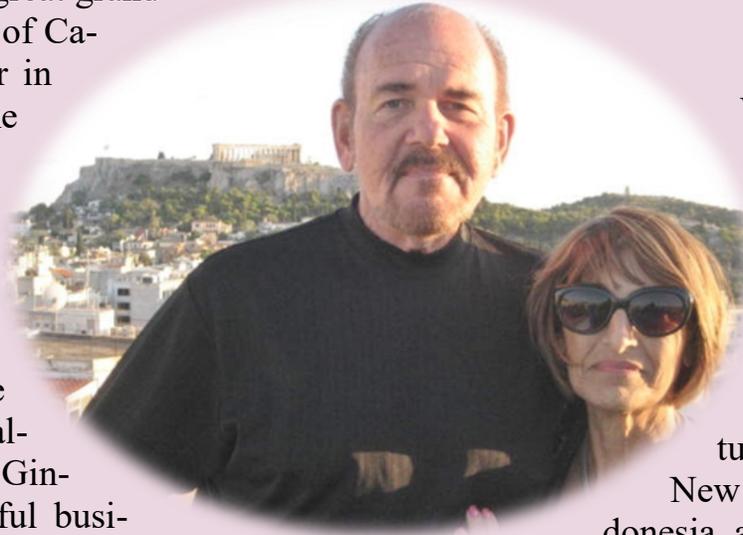
## Ginny De Mattei and Jeff Raffa

**G**inny De Mattei-Raffa and Jeff Raffa met over 30 years ago due to their love of adventure (they met while whitewater rafting), but they bonded (and married) in part due to their shared Italian heritage. Jeff's grandparents settled in a small riverfront town in New York where many families from Zungoli in Campania had settled to be among other Italians in their adopted country. Ginny's great grandmother came from a tiny town in the hills of Calabria and settled with her baby daughter in Brooklyn, where her two sons had come earlier to make a new life, also among other Italians.

They were fortunate to have met Rev. Antonio Mangano, who was famous for working among Italian immigrant communities to help them assimilate in the early 1900's. As is the story of most Italians, with hard work and parsimony both Ginny and Jeff's grandparents were successful business and property owners, surprisingly in the same business. Both Ginny's and Jeff's grandparents had summer homes that provided happy memories of large family gatherings, games with their cousins and swimming – Jeff in Lake Carmel and Ginny in the ocean, as Jeff's family house was in the country and Ginny's family had a house at the shore.

In September 2019 Jeff and Ginny fulfilled a life-long ambition and went to Italy specifically to go to the villages where their ancestors emigrated from. With an Italian guide/translator they were able to walk through the streets of Zungoli and San Lorenzo Belizzi where many generations before them had walked and they obtained copies of historical records of their grandparents and

great-grandparents. The icing on that cake was for Ginny to find cousins in Civita, a town to which some of her ancestors had moved. The cousins have developed a close relationship via email and WhatsApp, as Ginny is trying to learn Italian and her cousin Vincenza in Italy practices her English on Ginny. Ginny and Jeff look forward to returning to Civita when it is safe to do so.



When this pandemic is over (and we all pray it will be soon), Ginny and Jeff look forward to resuming the adventures that have been placed on hold. Travel is their number one hobby. They are both PADI Dive masters (first level of professional scuba divers) and overseas trips are a mix of dive and cultural adventures. Diving has taken them to Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Australia, Palau, Tahiti, Bali, Indonesia and hopefully Maldives next year, while culture had taken them to Russia, Germany, Scandinavia, Morocco, Poland, Hungary, Italy, Monaco, Greece, Turkey and many more places too numerous to name.

On the horizon is touring the port wine vineyards of Portugal, safari in Africa, more time in Civita and more scuba diving in Indonesia. The adventure continues...



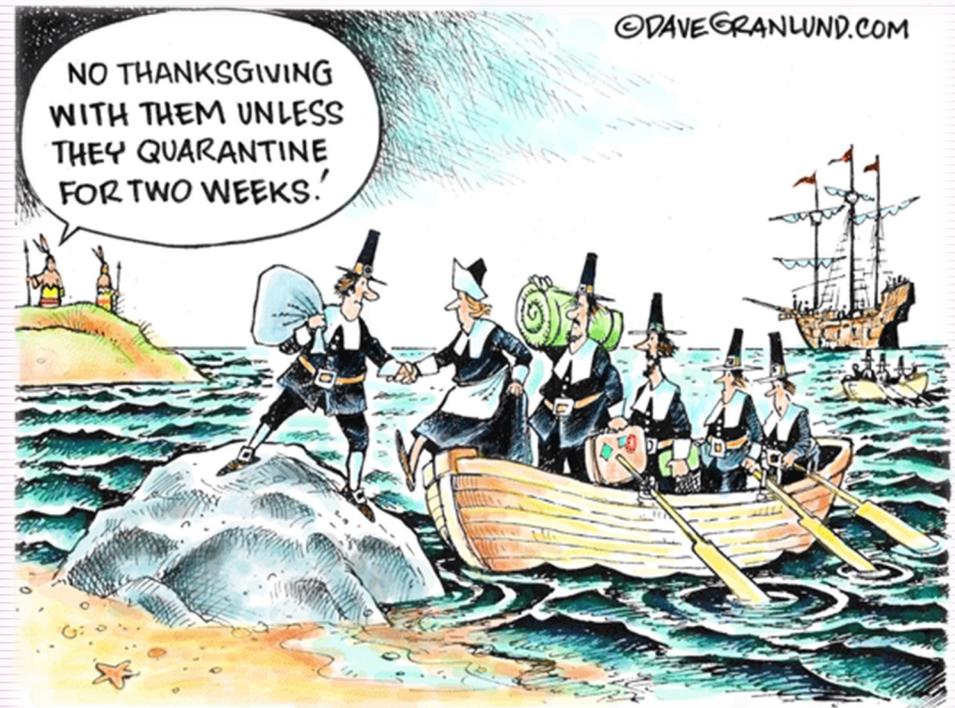
**RIDERE  
FA BENE**

*The following are actual statements found in insurance forms where drivers attempted to summarize the details of an accident in the fewest words.*

1. Coming home, I drove into the wrong house and collided with a tree I don't have
2. I thought my window was down, but I found out it was up when I put my head through it.
3. A truck backed through my windshield into my wife's face.
4. A pedestrian hit me and went under my car.
5. The guy was all over the road, I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him.
6. To avoid hitting the bumper of the car in front, I struck the pedestrian.
7. I told the police that I was not injured, but on removing my hat, found that I had a fracture skull.
8. I saw a slow-moving, sad faced old gentleman as he bounced off the hood of my car.
9. I was thrown from my car as it left the road. I was later found in a ditch by some stray dogs.
10. The telephone pole was approaching. I was at tempting to swerve out of its way when it struck my front end.

## THE RULES OF LIFE

1. You need only two tools: WD40 and Duct Tape. If it doesn't move and it should, use WD-40. If it moves and shouldn't, use the duct tape.
2. Everyone seems normal until you get to know them.
3. Never pass up an opportunity to potty.
4. The five most essential words for a healthy, vital relationship are: "I apologize" and "You're right".
5. If you woke up breathing, congratulations! You have another chance.
6. Be really good to your family and friends. You never know when you are going to need them to empty your bedpan!



## RIDERE FA BENE

Four old retired men are walking down a street in Yuma, Arizona. They turn a corner and see a sign that says, "Old Timers Bar - ALL drinks 10 cents."

They look at each other and then go in, thinking this is too good to be true. The old bartender says in a voice that carries across the room, "Come on in and let me pour one for you!

What'll it be, gentlemen?"

There's a fully stocked bar, so each of the men orders a martini. In no time the bartender serves up four iced martinis shaken, not stirred and says, "That's 10 cents each, please."

The four guys stare at the bartender for a moment, then at each other. They can't believe their good luck. They pay the 40 cents, finish their martinis, and order another round. Again, four excellent martinis are produced, with the bartender again saying, "That's 40 cents, please."

They pay the 40 cents, but their curiosity gets the better of them. They've each had two martinis and haven't even spent a dollar yet. Finally one of them says, "How can you afford to serve martinis as good as these for a dime apiece?"

"I'm a retired tailor from Phoenix," the bartender says, "and I always wanted to own a bar. Last year I hit the Lottery Jackpot for \$125 million and decided to open this place. Every drink costs a dime. Wine, liquor, beer it's all the same."

"Wow! That's some story!" one of the men says.

As the four of them sip at their martinis, they can't help noticing seven other people at the end of the bar who don't have any drinks in front of them and haven't ordered anything the whole time they've been there. Nodding at the seven at the end of the bar, one of the men asks the Bartender, "What's with them?"

The bartender says, "They're retired people from Florida. They're waiting for Happy Hour when drinks are half-price, plus they all have coupons."



*"They're baby boomers—like, you know, really old."*



# FROM ITALIA

## By Raffaele Gueli

### US ITALIANS, THEM AMERICANS

The following is a conversation from an episode of The Sopranos, between Sal 'Big Pussy' Bonpensiero and Paulie 'Walnuts' Gualtieri, inside a Starbucks café. We know for fact that these two "TV Series characters" are first or second-generation Americans, children or grandchildren of Italian immigrants. They are unquestionably born in the USA, as Bruce Springsteen sings. Listen to this conversation and then we can further discuss the topic.

**Client before them:** *"Cappuccino, primo, non-fat, magnifico, double espresso regolare!"*

[Primo? Magnifico? Regolare? Very wordy and unnecessary effusive terminology which adds confusion and nothing else. Not even in Italy we use all these words]

**Sal:** (kind of lost, looking at the menu board) *"I think I'll have ...eh ... an espresso. Paulie, you want anything?"*

**Paulie:** *"Do you have any Aegis coffee?"*

**Barista:** *"Sir, our café du jour is new New Zealand Peaberry"* [Wow! Not even in Italian but in French? You need to take a language class just to order coffee. What happened to 'good-ole' American coffee with or without cream or sugar?]

**Paulie:** (Embittered and baffled) *Maronna! Whatever."* Then, pulling Sal to a corner he says: *"F.... Italian people, how did we miss out on this?"*

**Sal:** *"What?"*

**Paulie:** *"F.... espresso, cappuccino. We invented this shit and these c... are getting rich."*

**Sal:** *"Oh yeah, isn't it amazing!"*

**Paulie:** *"And it's not just the money. Is the pride thing. All*

*our food: pizza calzon, buffalo mozzarella, olive oil. These f.... people had nothing. They ate pig shit before we gave them the gift of our cuisine. But this? This is the worse, this espresso shit..."*

Paulie may be right in his affirmation about non-Italians who exploit and commercialize Italian food for a profit, and we will elaborate it another time, but don't you find this conversion very disheartening? Us? Our? Them? ... Them who? Obviously, he is not talking only about Starbucks but Americans in general. Sal and Paulie are not Americans? Then, who are the Americans? Well, it's all of us, the people of the United States of America: USA born and naturalized American citizens, as well as legal alien citizens who reside permanently in the USA. I know for fact that there are Italian-born Americans who have lived in the USA for decades, yet they still make a distinction between 'us Italians' and 'them Americans'. Upon hearing people (like Paulie) making this differentiation, it comes natural for me to get stunned, if not outraged, by this indifferent, apathetic and gratuitous remark. We are all Americans, as long as we are citizens with a right by birth or by naturalization; as long as we choose to live here legally; as long as we call it 'our home', even if some foreign-born legal residents are eligible for US citizenship yet they chose not to become citizens.

I married my wife while I was employed overseas by the US Department of the Navy (Naval Air Station Sigonella). She had never lived in the States. We had friends in the military community. We would celebrate US holidays and festivities and we enjoyed American rituals and events, like Independence Day and Thanksgiving. We would do our shopping mostly inside the naval base and she got accustomed to American cuisine and traditions. For a time she even worked on the base. But consider the

fact that we were interacting in an American base, yet we were living in an Italian community. When it came time for me to return (with her) to the States, she didn't feel as an immigrant even though she had to be issued a green card. For my wife, moving to the USA was just like moving, relocating to another place, another house. But, unlike me, she never got to assimilate the perception of being American. I was a teenager when I immigrated to the USA and for me it was the fulfillment of my American dream. I did not hesitate, in due time, to become citizen and to feel wholesomely American.

She didn't experience this radical full immersion with the new identity as I did. Just like many other Italians, even though she loved her adopted country, where we were living, where we were working and where it was our 'home', she was apprehensive of cutting the umbilical cord with Italy, of forsaking her native country. She retained her Italian nationality. Please note that no matter what you do, if you are born in Italy, you'll never, ever lose your citizenship, even if technically you have to renounce it upon becoming US citizen. I may not agree with this perceptive adverseness, but we live in a free country, don't we? My deceased brother-in-law had been living in USA for some 35 years, yet he had never wanted to become a citizen. Travelling with an Italian passport and a valid green card, a US Border Patrol officer once told him: "I take it as a personal offense that you are living in my country for so long, but you don't want yet to become a citizen". The officer was out of order. My sister's husband didn't have to justify himself to this individual. It is obvious that USA was his home, yet he was too lazy or just

reticent to initiate the naturalization process. However, whatever the feelings or circumstances might be, I don't want to hear legal aliens residing in the USA talk about 'them Americans'. Whenever my wife would say (e.g.): "*the Americans like to eat Chinese food - The Americans waste too much food*". I would promptly correct her into saying: "*Here in America it's a tradition to eat Chinese food - Here in America we waste too much food*". Keep it neutral or keep it collectively, in general, but never say 'the Americans' if you live in America.

Of course, people like Paulie shouldn't even have any doubt about their true identity if they do not want to be branded as anti-American. I feel extremely lucky to be an American and to having been born to an Italian family. I feel lucky to have a great heritage, the best of two lifestyles that any human being can only dream to achieve. Who doesn't love the USA, to live in the greatest county on earth? Who doesn't love to be Italian with a millennial history of cultural prestige and supremacy? I am Italian by birth, but American by choice, and before being labeled as Italian-American, first and foremost I prefer to be identified as American, regardless of origin or ethnic group.



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**Individual:**

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## ITALIAN AMERICAN MAGAZINE

**By now all lodge members should have received the summer issue of our Italian magazine. Please contact Ed Mottola should you haven't received the magazine**

# VISIT OUR SPONSORS

## LODGE INFORMATION

Our Board Meeting will be the first Wednesday of every month at the West Boca Library

Lodge Meeting at 6:30 PM on second Tuesday of every month beginning September at Delray Masonic Lodge, 4093 NW 4th Ave. Boca Raton

## Members

If anyone has a child or grandchild planning on attending College and would like to help the. Bonanno has available, every year, one \$500 scholarship, which will be sent directly to the College of their choice. Please talk to us for more information. Caveat: You must be a paid in-full member in good standing!

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## ANNUAL DUES 2021:

Dear Brothers and Sisters, a word to remind you that annual dues for 2021 are coming due soon. January and February are busy times for your Financial Secretary and Treasurer, with incoming member dues and filings for such things as the Quarterly Per Capital report, insurance payments, etc.. Please remember that annual dues are due January 1st, 2021, but any dues that are unpaid by the end of March, will sadly result in having to drop the member(s) from our rolls. Please do not let that happen. Our dues are \$45/per person/per year. Due to the current pandemic problem, you may send your dues directly to me, at the address below. All checks should be made out to the Sgt. F. M. Bonanno Lodge #2549. Thanks in advance.

Larry Danza, Financial Secretary

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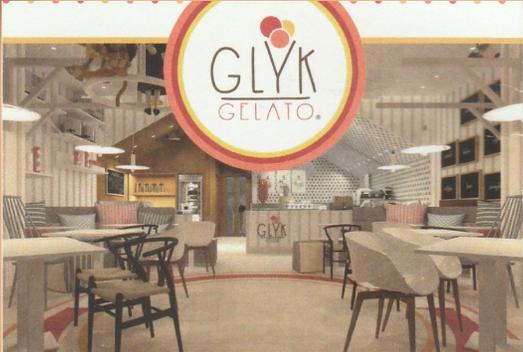


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### DON AND ANGIE MEMORIAL LODGE SCHOLARSHIP

OUR LODGE'S DON AND ANGIE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS SELECTION CAME TO A CLOSE ON APRIL 1<sup>st</sup>. RECIPIENTS OF THE AWARD WERE KATIE MILLER, UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA, GRANDDAUGHTER OF MARJORIE MILLER AND KELLY AGLIO, THE UNIVERSITY OF BUCKNELL, GRANDDAUGHTER OF GENEVIEVE AGLIO.

OUR LODGE MEMBERS REACH OUT TO THANK THE DON & ANGIE SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDERS FOR THEIR MANY YEARS OF SUPPORT.

**La Voce di Boca Raton**

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER by:

ORDER SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA  
SGT. FREDERICK M. BONANNO LODGE #2549  
18281 FRESH LAKE WAY - BOCA RATON, FL 33498  
E-Mail: osiaflBOCA@gmail.com

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