

July Questo Mese Newsletter

From Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America <nationaloffice@osia.org>

Date Tuesday, July 1st, 2025



July | Luglio 2025

A MESSAGE FROM

National President, Michael G. Polo



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Welcome to the summer season! This past month, OSDIA reached its 120th anniversary, a significant milestone for this organization, and an occasion that I had the pleasure of celebrating with Grand Lodge leaders from New York, including our National 1st Vice President, Thomas A. Lupo.

Also happening this month were two other celebrations within the Italian and Italian-American communities: *La Festa Della Repubblica* in Italy, and the Feast Day of St. Anthony of Padua in the U.S. *La Festa Della Repubblica* commemorates the day in which Italy officially became a republic in 1946, and the Feast Day of St. Anthony is an important celebration in many Italian-American communities in the U.S., including the North End of Boston and Little Italy in New York City.

In addition to events at a national level, June was also important for our Grand Lodges, as 11 of them hosted their conventions throughout the United States. I was happy to be welcomed in-person at many of them, and to see the hard work of our Grand Lodge officers come to fruition. I would like to extend my congratulations to all of the newly-elected Grand Lodge Presidents and Officers, and to give a special recognition to the Grand Lodge of California, which recently reached its 100th anniversary!

Needless to say, it has been a very busy month for our lodges, and it will continue to be so at a national level leading up to our 59th Biennial National Convention this August in Orlando, Florida, which is open to all members this year. More details can be found further in this newsletter.

Sempre Avanti!

Fraternally,

Michael G. Polo

National President, Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America



Intern with OSDIA: Apply Today to Our Fall 2025 Internship Program

**Are you interested in obtaining nonprofit work experience in a fast-paced environment in the
nation's capital?**

Apply today to OSDIA's Fall 2025 Internship Program! This paid internship will be on-site at the OSDIA National Office on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., and is open to currently enrolled college/university students, or those who have graduated within the last two years.



Interns in our Fall 2025 cohort will work in an engaging and exciting environment, working to promote and preserve the Italian language and culture. Among other responsibilities, interns will:

- Aid staff in preparations for large events.
- Support social media and marketing communications (i.e., press releases, emails, etc.)
- Assist with website-related projects, including content development.
- Assist with various administrative and membership-related tasks.

The internship is in-person and will run from **September 3, 2025-November 7, 2025.**

Applications from all areas of study are welcome, and Italian language skills are also a bonus! For full application requirements and to submit your application, please click the button below:

Apply Today!



OSDIA National Office Staff and the spring 2025 interns pose for a photo at the National Education and Leadership Awards Gala in Washington, D.C.



Register for Part 2 of OSDIA's Exclusive Italian Citizenship Webinar



On May 20th, 2025, the Italian Parliament approved Decree-Law 36/2025, which brought significant changes to Italy's citizenship laws, and has left many unsure of where they stand in their citizenship journey.

To help our members better understand this uncertain situation, we are partnering with immigration law expert Giandomenico Murro for part 2 of our exclusive "Road to Italian Citizenship" webinar series, on **Thursday, July 24th, at 11:00am EDT**. Giandomenico is a contractor for the Italian Republic, and a proud board member of the Vincenzo Sellaro Lodge #3009 in Palermo, Italy.

This members-only webinar will provide an overview of how Italy's citizenship laws have changed since the decree-law was approved, and how it may impact your eligibility to obtain Italian dual citizenship. If you have any questions, feel free to submit them when you register, though please note that there will be a Q&A session at the end of the webinar as well.

If you aren't sure whether you can attend, be sure to register anyway so that you can receive a link to the recording.

We look forward to having you attend the event!

Register Today!



OSDIA Announces Two Full Tuition Scholarships in Partnership with Swiss School of Management



Chancellor and Chairman Stefano Anzuinelli speaking during the opening of the SSM Milan campus.

Beginning in the 2026 academic year, OSDIA will partner with the Swiss School of Management (SSM) to extend a full tuition scholarship to successful candidates of Italian descent for both their Bachelor of Business Administration and Master of Business Administration programs.

This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity not only strengthens the ties between Lombardy and the United States, but also fosters future Italian-American leaders in the business field. The winners of these scholarships will receive a world class education in a growing hub of international business.

The partnership was formally announced during the 2025 National Education and Leadership Awards (NELA) Gala on May 22, in Washington, D.C.

Chancellor and Chairman of the SSM Milan-Brescia campus, Stefano Anzuinelli, spoke during the NELA Gala about this historic partnership, and how it intends to not only foster future leaders in business, but also to connect Italian Americans with their Italian roots.

"We provide our students not just with the opportunity to study abroad, but with a calling to return and rediscover the land of their ancestors, and to bring back with them the tools to shape a better world," he said during his remarks.

Further details on these scholarships and application deadlines will be announced in the coming months. Click the button below to read more about the Swiss School of Management.

[Learn More!](#)



OSDIA 59TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES AVAILABLE!



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IN AMERICA®

Become an OSDIA Sponsor Today!

Our sponsors gain unparalleled visibility, reaching an audience of tens of thousands of Italian Americans throughout the United States. Our tiered sponsorship packages will give your brand exposure to a combined **social media following of 133,000, a magazine readership of 100,000+, and hundreds of esteemed guests at official OSDIA events throughout the U.S.**

Consider becoming a sponsor today in time for OSDIA's 59th Biennial Convention, which will be held from August 12-16 at the Grand Hyatt Regency in Orlando, Florida. This event is the largest and most significant gathering of our organization, in which your brand will get exposure to OSDIA members and executive leadership from all over the country.

Become an OSDIA Sponsor



OSDIA Convention Highlight: Eleven Grand Lodges Host Conventions Throughout U.S.

In June, OSDIA national officers were present at many biennial conventions throughout the United States. This past month was the busiest for our Grand Lodges, with the following states holding their

conventions: Colorado, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island.

The National Office wishes all new Grand Lodge presidents, officers, and trustees the best in their new roles, and for many great years ahead. We also extend our congratulations to the Grand Lodge of California, for reaching its 100th anniversary last month.

See below for a few convention highlights from this past month!



New York

Officers from the Grand Lodge of New York and Supreme Lodge representatives pose for a photo at the Grand Lodge of New York's state convention.



Ohio

Officers from the Grand Lodge of Ohio and Supreme Lodge representatives pose for a photo at the Grand Lodge of Ohio's state convention.



California

From left to right: Arlene Nunziati, California Grand Lodge President, Tony Bisceglia Anderson, National 4th Vice President, and Maria Fassio-Pignati, SIF Trustee, pose for a photo during the Grand Lodge of California's 100-year anniversary.



Rhode Island

From left to right: Donald Angelo, Past President, Tara Britt, Financial Secretary, Deborah Angelo, 3rd Vice President, Michael G. Polo, National President, Shayla Kaestle, National Executive Director, and Ernie Ricci, Grand Lodge of Rhode Island President pose for a photo at the Rhode Island Grand Lodge Convention.



Connecticut

John Tornatore, President of the Ella T Grasso Lodge #2538 addresses the crowd at the Grand Lodge of Connecticut's state convention.



Massachusetts

A photo of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts' convention, hosted in Springfield.



Maryland

National 5th Vice President Frank Gattuso addresses the crowd at the state convention of the Grand Lodge of Maryland.



Pennsylvania

National 1st Vice President Thomas A. Lupo speaks with Past National President Joanne Strollo, National Trustee Catena Spiritosanto, and other members at the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania's state convention.



OSDIA Spotlight: *John Michael Marino* *Lodge #1389 of Port Washington, NY*



The 2025 scholarship recipients pose for a photo at the Scholarship and Awards Night on June 18.

On June 18, the John Michael Marino Lodge #1389 of Port Washington, New York, held its annual Scholarship and Awards Night. The lodge presented 16 scholarships and awards during the evening to a group of outstanding students. Four of these scholarships were given by the Grand Lodge of New York.





Join Us For OSDIA's 59th Biennial National Convention!

August 12-16, 2025 | Orlando, Florida

Attention all members of the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America (OSDIA)—including At-Large Members! We invite you to attend the 59th Biennial National Convention in sunny Orlando!

This exciting, once-every-two-years event brings together OSDIA members and leadership from across the country to network, learn, and shape the future of our organization.

Here's what's in store:

- **Breakout sessions** to get tips on growing and maintaining membership, creative ideas for fundraising and events, iMembersDB workshops, and various panel discussions and speakers.
- **Opportunities to connect** with fellow Italian Americans from every corner of the U.S., meet with representatives from our National Charities, and shop with partnering vendors.
- **Family fun**, including access to **discounted Disney World tickets**.
- The formal installation of the next Supreme Council of Officers and Trustees.

Whether you're an active lodge leader or a member looking to get more involved, the National Convention is a chance to **grow, celebrate, and be part of something bigger**.

The \$50 registration fee entitles you to access all breakout sessions, convention session materials, networking and cultural events, observation of business meetings and official OSDIA swag. Optional *a la carte* meals and meal packages are available.

Click the button below to register:

Register Today!



Marco Peronaci Named New Ambassador of Italy to the U.S.



Congratulations to Ambassador Marco Peronaci, Italy's New Representative to the U.S!

We extend our warmest congratulations to Ambassador Marco Peronaci on his distinguished appointment as the new Ambassador of Italy to the United States. This marks a pivotal moment for transatlantic relations and the vibrant Italian-American community across the U.S.

Ambassador Peronaci brings an extraordinary depth of experience to this crucial role, having served with distinction in various high-profile diplomatic positions, including most recently as Italy's Permanent Representative to NATO. His extensive career, marked by postings in Brussels, Paris, Tokyo, and Kampala, alongside his critical work as Special Envoy for Brexit and as the Ministerial Spokesperson, truly underscores his profound understanding of international affairs and complex geopolitical dynamics.

As he takes over from the esteemed Ambassador Mariangela Zappia, we anticipate a continuation of strong ties and collaboration between Italy and the United States. His proven diplomatic acumen, coupled with his deep commitment to fostering international dialogue, makes him exceptionally well-suited to navigate the evolving global landscape and champion shared interests.

From his academic roots in political science to his commendations, including the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic, Ambassador Peronaci's career exemplifies dedication to public service and the advancement of Italy's global standing.

We eagerly look forward to his leadership in strengthening the bonds of friendship, culture, and cooperation that define the relationship between our two nations.

Benvenuto, Ambasciatore Peronaci! We wish you immense success in this vital mission.



June Lodge Anniversaries

On June 12, the *Medford Men Lodge* #1359, of Medford, Massachusetts, reached its **100-year anniversary**. The National Office congratulates Lodge #1359 on this important milestone and wishes them the best for the years ahead!



Writers Wanted

Interested in writing for OSDIA's official magazine?

We want to hear from you!



Photo of a person reading from a magazine. Photo courtesy of [Pexels](#)/Gül Işık

Do you have a story idea about impactful work an OSDIA member or a lodge is doing in their community? Are you interested in writing for the most widely read magazine for people of Italian heritage in the United States? We want to hear from you! For consideration in Italian America magazine, which has a circulation of more than 25,000, and a readership of more than 100,000 each quarter, please submit your story pitches to italianamerica@osia.org.

Story pitches must be no more than 250 words and be a topic pertinent to the Italian American community. Preference will be given to story ideas featuring OSDIA members or lodges, but all stories of interest to the Italian American community will be considered.



**Interested in Learning How to Play Tombola and
Scopa? Check out these resources!**

OSDIA's Italian Relations, Culture, Language and Travel Committee (IRCLT) has put together PowerPoint presentations for OSDIA members on a variety of Italian card games/table games. The IRCLT committee thanks Michael D'Amore for his work in putting together these presentations, and hopes that you will use these resources to teach and play Italian games with your members.

Click the links below to learn more about Scopa and Tombola. Enjoy!

[Scopa Presentation](#)

[Tombola Presentation](#)



BECOME A CHARTER GOLD MEMBER For \$100

Investing in a Gold Membership shows your extra commitment to the future of Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America.

Benefits:

*OSDIA Exclusive CHARTER Gold Member Pin **

Acknowledgment in OSDIA and Sons of Italy

Foundation event publications

Discounts to signature events, including the NELA Gala

Special gifts, swag, and other exclusive benefits!



**Charter membership status only available until Convention in August*

[Become a Gold Member*](#)



New and existing Gold Members pose for a photo at the Grand Lodge of Florida's Biennial Convention in May, 2025

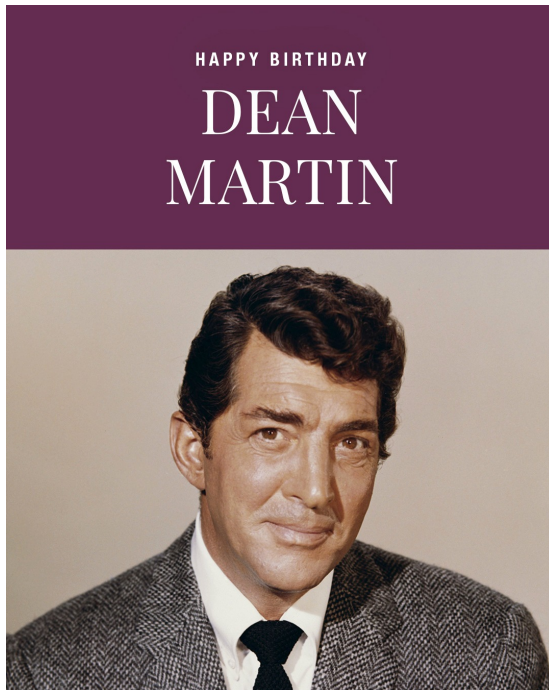
(From left to right: Jenn Santos, Wendy Corso-Ruud, Fran Bosi, Robert Ianniello, Dr. Mark DeNunzio, Greg Bianchini, Michael G. Polo, Annette Guarino, Ken MacLean, Patricia Russo, Shayla Kaestle, Dan Kaestle)

***To apply for Gold Membership, one must be a member of a lodge or an At-Large Member.**



SOCIAL MEDIA

Post of the Month



#BornOnThisDay in 1917 was Dean Martin, born Dino Paul Crocetti in Steubenville, Ohio, to Italian immigrants from Abruzzo. Before he became the “King of Cool,” he spoke only Italian until starting school, dropped out in 10th grade, and worked odd jobs — including as a boxer and a steel mill hand — before finding his way to nightclubs.

With his smooth baritone voice and laid-back charm, he became a beloved crooner with hits like “That’s Amore,” “Volare,” and “Everybody Loves Somebody.” As one-half of the legendary Martin & Lewis comedy duo with Jerry Lewis, and later as a member of the Rat Pack alongside Frank Sinatra and Sammy Davis Jr., Dean helped define mid-20th century American entertainment. Whether on stage, screen, or his long-running variety show, Martin’s effortless charisma made him an icon. Yet he never strayed far from his Italian roots — often incorporating Italian melodies, phrases, and flair into his performances.

Decades later, Dean Martin remains a timeless symbol of cool, class, and cultural crossover. IT 🍷 🎵



Refer Your Friends & Family!



Invite your friends and family to celebrate our rich heritage, make lasting connections, and be part of our vibrant community.

Become A Member





Support Our 2025 Scholarship Awards

Through the Sons of Italy Foundation® (SIF), and tens of thousands of family members located in all fifty states and the District of Columbia, the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America® (OSDIA) has awarded tens of millions of dollars in scholarships to date.

If you want to support the cause, and help propel future Italian-American students to new heights, make your donation at the link below!

Make A Donation





Follow Our Social Channels!

Follow us for daily content celebrating all things Italian-American!

Join our social family today and be part of our mission to preserve our cherished heritage and build a brighter future together.



Advertise Your Business on the OSDIA Website!

Have you thought about advertising on the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America website? You can advertise in our online business directory today!

For more information,
[CLICK HERE!](#)

Advertise on our website!



Advertise Your Business in *Italian America* Magazine!

Want the opportunity to showcase your business for a nationwide readership of Italian Americans? You can always promote it in our *Italian America* magazine! For more information,

[CLICK HERE!](#)

Advertise in Italian America!



Member Benefits



Save 10% on Italian Classes with Fondazione Italia!

Are you looking to improve your Italian skills? Don't miss out on this members-only opportunity. For an exclusive 10% discount on all online group classes at Fondazione Italia Language school, click the link below. Use the code **OSDIA10** to claim your discount.

Book a Class



Make sure to follow OSDIA on social media to stay up to date on all things OSDIA, Italian American and Italy related! From news and history to recipes and photos, and everything in between!



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