

# La Gazzetta

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**Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America**

March 2022 marzo

Editor: Tony DiCostanzo



**Official  
Newsletter**  
Geneva Lodge 2397  
OSDIA  
31 Prospect Ave.  
Geneva, N.Y. 14456  
315-781-2242  
email  
[tonyd1953@gmail.com](mailto:tonyd1953@gmail.com)

## Lodge News

### Dues for 2022

Dues for the year 2022 were due on Dec. 31, 2021. Approx. 220 members have paid to date. Please call the lodge if you are unsure if you are paid, or how much your dues are. Our first per capita tax payment to our Grand Lodge was sent in Jan. and our second payment comes due in April. Those who are in arrears will be receiving a phone call in the near future as a reminder that your payment is due.

### Lodge Scholarships

The application process for our Geneva Lodge Scholarships is now open. Applications are available on the lodge website, or by calling the lodge office. All high school seniors who are the children, grand children or a close relative of a member, are eligible to apply. The deadline to apply is April 30th.

## President's Message

Dear Brothers, Sisters, and friends:

The month of March is always one of the most changeable months of the year. We can experience a winter day, and then, 24 hrs later, a spring like day. Within OSDIA, and our Geneva Lodge, March is also the month when we change over administrations as terms of office come to an end. I believe that the change over from one administration to the next is one of the greatest strengths of OSDIA. New people bring new ideas. I know that it is hard for some to embrace change. We grow comfortable in knowing what to expect. However, OSDIA has survived for 117 years, and our Geneva Lodge for 45 years, because we have continually accepted change. I hope each of you will support the incoming officers for the betterment of our lodge and OSDIA.



With the above being said, you will find that much of what we do here at Geneva Lodge will remain the same. There will be fun events, dinners, weekly bingo, our bar, and hopefully some new ideas will spring up throughout the year. Sometime over the summer we will have a celebration of our 45th anniversary as a lodge. You'll hear more about that in the coming months.

As for myself, this is my last President's Message. It has been a pleasure serving you, the members. As I've always said, this is your lodge. Your participation is what makes it great.

I hope you will continue to support the lodge and I hope to see you soon at the next great lodge event.

Fraternally,

*Tony D.*

"Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future."

[John F. Kennedy](#)

**COUNCIL  
MEETING  
Thursday  
March 10th  
7:00 pm**

**ASSEMBLY  
MEETING  
Thursday  
March 24th  
7:00 pm**



*Get Well wishes to  
all members who  
may be in ill health.  
We hope you have  
a speedy recovery.*

## Sons & Daughters of Italy

Geneva Lodge 2397



# 210 Club



Drawings start on March 25th

Ten weeks of cash drawings - 27 in all  
**\$1000 in total cash prizes**

- **Two \$25 drawings each week for nine weeks**
  - **Extra \$50 drawing on week five for all paid up tickets**
- **Week ten - eight drawings - four at \$25; two at \$50; one at \$100; and one at \$200**

**Only \$2 per/week to play - total of \$20**  
All ticket holders are invited to an Italian Buffet  
Dinner on Sat. May 28th at 6:30 pm

Ask at our office or bar if you want to start a ticket  
Call the lodge 315-781-2242

## State and National OSIA News



### State Scholarships

The NYS OSDIA Scholarship application process began at the beginning of January. Dozens of scholarships are awarded each year to students across the state. Our Geneva Lodge has been very successful through the years in having at least one student per year be awarded a scholarship. If you have a child or grandchild who is a high school senior, please have them apply. Both the scholarship application, and the grant application can be found on the Grand Lodge website: [www.nysosia.org](http://www.nysosia.org). Click on the scholarship tab. You can also pick one up at our lodge office. The deadline to apply is March 31, 2022.

### NYS CSJ Annual Italian Heritage Essay Contest

Our New York State Commission of Social Justice is once again sponsoring their annual **John Dabbene Italian Heritage Essay Contest** for 7th and 8th grade students, or high school seniors. (there are separate categories) The children, grandchildren or relatives of all members are eligible to enter. Essays must be a minimum of 200 words. There is no cost to enter. Each winner will receive a \$200 cash award.

Please contact our lodge office for a contest application. You can pick one up or we can mail one to you. All essays must be post-marked by May 1, 2022.

## Timothy J. Buckley

ATTORNEY AT LAW

781-1455

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## Quick Shots

### Lodge Scholarships

The application process for our Geneva Lodge Scholarships is now open. Applications are available on the lodge website, or by calling the lodge office. Full details will be in the March newsletter. The deadline to apply is April 30th.

### Queen of Hearts

The weekly Queen of Hearts drawing jackpot has reached \$2176 as of March 6th. Everyone is eligible to enter the weekly drawing. You can get tickets at our bar during the week or during our weekly Sunday bingo games. There are 24 cards left to choose from so the odds get better each week that the Queen isn't drawn. Tickets are \$1.00 each.




Don't forget to stop in to the bar to start your 210 Club ticket for 2022. You can also call the lodge office and we'll make sure you'll receive a ticket. The drawings begin on March 25th.

Thank you to our member advertisers. For information on advertising in La Gazzetta please call 315-781-2242

**Laurenza's Performance & Classics, LLC**

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*Dan Laurenza, Jr.*

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**OSDIA**

Est. 1977

**Sons & Daughters of Italy**  
**Friday Night Dinners**  
**Every Friday**  
**March 4th to April 15th**



**Fish Dinners**  
Fried, Broiled, or Shrimp -  
Steaks and Grilled Chicken

- Fish Dinners - \$13.00**
- Shrimp Dinners - \$13.00**
- Steak Dinner (10 oz.) - \$13.00**
- Grilled Chicken Breast Dinner - \$9.00**
- Fish Sandwich Dinner - \$9.00**

All dinners include potato, coleslaw,  
salad, roll, & coffee (tax included)

**Desserts available for purchase**

**Serving from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm**



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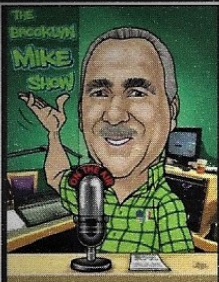


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## From the President's Desk

My apologies for getting this edition out a bit late. I wanted to wait until the absentee votes had been counted from the recent election so that I could list the incoming council members and delegates in this newsletter.

By the time you read this newsletter my time as president of Geneva Lodge 2397 will be nearing its end. Three years is a long time to lead a lodge such as ours. You not only need to be a lodge president, but also a CEO of a multi faceted business. Success or failure in this venture depends on the help of a tremendous group of member volunteers, and I can honestly say that I had a great group of them throughout the past three years. I can never thank them all enough for making our lodge look good, not only here in our local community, but throughout the Sons & Daughters of Italy organization statewide. Geneva Lodge has led the state in bringing in new members over the past three years, and considering that we have been dealing with a pandemic over the past two years, that is quite an accomplishment that everyone should be proud of. That success is based on the fact that we have strived to provide quality events here that both members and the public can enjoy, and that has led to people wanting to join. There is no real secret to this success. Make people feel welcome. Embrace them as new friends and they will want to become part of a progressive organization.

Through the past two years we continued to show that the Sons & Daughters of Italy care about our local community. Our members rang the bells for the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Drive each December. We collected food items and cash for the Geneva Center of Concern. We continued our annual Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Torrey Park Monument. We allowed both civic and religious groups space to meet at the lodge free of charge. We donated to local causes to help them meet their own fundraising goals. This combination of many things has continued to help us meet our own goal of "promoting a positive image of Italian Americans."

Most members, except those who have been members for 30 years or more, may not know that this is my third time serving as president of Geneva Lodge. I joined the lodge way back in 1977 when it first formed and became president for the first time in 1995 and served two one year terms. I ran again in 1999 and served for another two years, mostly because no one at that time was ready, or willing, to step up. We then went through a period where several younger members who had become council members each stepped up to take a turn at being president. That is actually the way you would hope a lodge progresses, where members move up through the ranks, keep learning, and then move up to president. However, it seems like that process hasn't quite worked out over the past several years. Fewer and fewer people are willing to assume leadership positions. Now, members who are willing can move up to becoming lodge president after just one term on a council. That makes the job quite a bit tougher.

This leadership shortage is what led me to taking on the presidency here once again. It's not really something I had planned on doing.

cont. in the next column

## From the President's Desk - cont.

Since the end of my second time as president I had taken on many other roles within OSDIA, serving as a deputy to other lodges, serving two separate terms as a state trustee (8 years), serving a term on the Geneva City Council, and most importantly, becoming a mediocre golfer. So, taking on this job here at the lodge wasn't something planned, however, with 44 years invested in trying to keep Geneva Lodge going, I felt that maybe I could help once again.

I must say that the past six months have been a very trying time for both myself, and for the lodge. The contentiousness that developed among members cast the lodge in a very bad light in the community. It has always been my contention that the well being of the lodge must come first before any personal agendas. It is my hope that with time these divisions that occurred will heal and that we can all become one again. Only the individuals involved can make that happen, and only if they truly believe in our mission.

But now, this is my last hurrah. It's time to pass the torch and for others to assume the leadership roles. I wish everyone who assumes the mantle of leadership great success. Keeping this lodge going is worth the effort. Once again, *mille grazie a tutti* to everyone who helped make me look good over the years.

Sempre avanti,

Tony D.

### Sons & Daughters of Italy

Prospect Ave, Geneva, NY

#### Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

Braised Corn Beef Brisket w/ Cabbage, Carrots & Red Potatoes

#### Baked Ham & Cabbage Dinner

Baked Sliced Ham w/ Cabbage, Carrots & Red Potatoes

#### Bangers and Mash Dinner

Traditional Irish sausage w/ Garlic mashed potatoes

#### *ALSO FEATURING:*

#### Corned Beef Reubens

Served on Rye Bread with French Fries

All the above Menu Specials are \$12.00  
(Gratuity Not Included)

SERVING FROM 4 PM TO 7 PM - MARCH 17TH

*Take out or Dine in !!*

\*\*\*\* OPEN TO THE PUBLIC \*\*\*\*

Upcoming Lodge Events  
**BINGO - Every Sunday @ 2:00 pm**  
 Bingo moves to 7:00 pm on March 20th

- March 10 Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- March 11 Fish Dinners 4:30 - 7:30 pm
- March 17 St. Pat's Day Dinners 4:00 - 7:00 pm
- March 18 Fish Dinners 4:30 - 7:30 pm
- March 24 Assembly Meeting 7:00 pm
- March 18 Fish Dinners 4:30 - 7:30 pm

♦ Euchre League - Mon. nights

♦ Installation of Officers - Thur. March 24th at 7:00 pm



President of New York State Grand Lodge  
**Michele Ment**

LIBERTY-EQUALITY-FRATERNITY

**Geneva Lodge 2397 - Officers**  
**President - Tony DiCostanzo**  
**Vice President - Mike Sculli**

- IPP - Palma Fratto-Evans
- Orator - Liz Sculli
- Rec. Sec. - Lisa Toole-Petronio
- Fin. Sec. - Len Dimon
- Treasurer - Phyllis Marino
- Masters of Ceremony - Steve Venuti
- Michael Pinco
- Sentinel - Joe Ponzi

- Trustees
- Marie Bruno
  - Phyllis Lowrey
  - Ann Osborne
  - Pam DiCostanzo
  - Pete Gillotte
  - Sharon Geraci

- State Deputy to Geneva Lodge - Jeremy DiFilipo
- District VIII State Trustee - Vincent Giannantonio

**Past Presidents of Geneva Lodge 2397**

- |                          |                             |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| John "Moon" Iannapolo †  | Gloria Ciancaglino          |
| Al Liberio †             | Tony DiCostanzo             |
| Beverly Gregoria †       | Ramona Constantine          |
| John Greco †             | Salvano "Sully" Ciancaglino |
| Joan D'Amico †           | Phyllis Lowrey              |
| Vincentina Salone        | Mary Jane Melito            |
| Joe Perry †              | Mike Cutillo                |
| Olga Pacil †             | Dan Chelenza                |
| Jeff Melito †            | Carol Prete †               |
| Kay Perry †              | Jill Kaim-Sutton            |
| Humbert "Ham" Riccione † | Larry Cassell               |
| Adeline Moracco †        | Jamie Kaim, Jr.             |
| Joseph "Jocko" Petrus †  | Robert Taddario             |
| Louis Ciancaglino †      | Cindy Durso-Woodhams        |
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