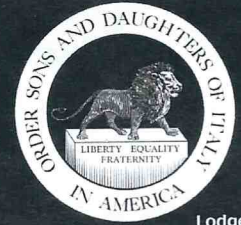




April 2025

# il Giornale di Gabriele

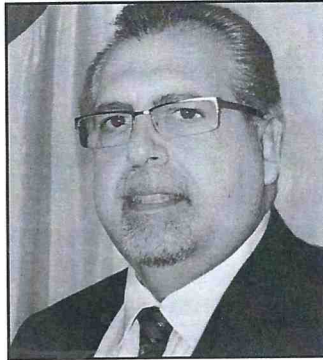
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Lodge 321

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

April is here; Spring is just around the corner; everyone will be going outside to plant their gardens. It was a very long winter this year. On March 15, we had our St Joseph's Dinner. We had only 71 people attend that was down from last year. I would like to thank Cathy Haggerty and Carolann Renna for Chairing the Dinner and all the volunteers that made the dinner a success. Everyone that I spoke to said how delicious the food was and especially the St. Josephs Zeppole's.



On Sunday March 23rd at 2pm we had our Installation of New Officers. Our State President Biagio Isgro and State Trustees officiated the Installation. Also, Rico Reali and Nick Piccirillo cooked dinner. I would like to thank everyone that made it a great day. I look forward to working with all the New Officers for the next two years.

Here are a few important dates in Italy. On April 20th Easter Sunday, we celebrate with family and friends. We have so many wonderful Easter traditions, especially the Easter pies and desserts. It's also about celebrating our Italian culture and heritage. Buono Pasqua. April 21st is Rome's birthday (Natale di Roma). April 25th is known as (Festa della Liberazione) Liberation Day it celebrates the end of Nazi occupation.

Women's Bocce meeting will be held on Thursday April 10th at 6:30pm at the Lodge. Men's Bocce meeting will be held on Thursday April 24th at 7:00 pm at the Lodge.

On Good Friday April 18th we will be having our Drive Thru Fish Fry. The cost will be \$15.00. The dinner will consist of Fried Haddock, French Fries, Coleslaw and a cookie. Please call the lodge to reserve your dinner.

I encourage all our members to stay active in the Lodge, either attending events or volunteering or just stopping by to have a coffee or a drink. Every contribution is appreciated.

As always, PLEASE support the Lodges Fundraising efforts, they help to keep the Lodge going strong.

Buona Pasqua a tutti !!!!!

Joseph A. Battaglia  
President



*Established March 28th, 1915*



## OSDIA Officer 2024-2025

- President** Joe Battaglia
- Immediate Past President** Louis Fazzino
- 1st Vice President** Dom Cafarelli
- 2nd Vice President** Anthony Cervera
- Orator** Dave Denofio
- Recording Secretary** Francis Pugliese
- Corresponding Secretary** Janice Libertucci
- Financial Secretary** Carmen Libertucci
- Treasurer** Fred Mastroianni
- Principal Trustee** Ray Haines
- Trustees** James Battaglia, Dave Bonitatibus, Anna Califano, John DeGeorgio, John Della Porta, Michael Masucci, Carolann Renna, Joe Restifo, Brian Vattimo
- Mistresses of Ceremony** Franca Della Porta, Lena Pasquariello
- Sentinel** Barry Van Steele
- NYS Trustee** Lisa Serafini
- Dist. 6 Deputy** Anthony Geddes
- Lodge Chaplain** Rev. Dominic Isopo
- Membership Chairperson** Dom Cafarelli
- Public & Community Relations** Cesare Maniccia
- Fund-Raising** Anthony Cervera
- Kitchen Chairpersons** Amerigo Reale
- House Chairpersons** John DeGeorgio
- Hall Rentals** Richard Pidgeon
- Bar Chairperson** Joseph Restifo
- Cultural Affairs Chairperson** Cesare Maniccia
- Photographers & Newsletter** Gene Loparco,
- Groundskeeper** Giuseppe Riccio
- Veterans Affairs** Chair Eugene Loparco

## Upcoming Meetings

- Officers' Meeting** APRIL 7 7:00PM
- General Meeting** APRIL 21 7:00PM

**FISH FRY FRIDAY – APRIL 18TH**

The Lodge will have a Drive Thru Fish Fry on Good Friday, April 18th from 4 to 6:30 PM. The meal will consist of an 8 oz. fish fry on a roll, french fries, coleslaw and a cookie, all for \$15 per person; a great bargain. It will be takeout only. It is an opportunity for a family to enjoy a simple delicious meal with a minimum of effort. Please call the Lodge at 518 355-7500 for reservations.

**WINETASTING IN MAY!**

Reserve Saturday May 17, that is the day of the Lodge’s annual Winetasting Contest and Dinner. The wine tasting will begin at 3 PM and dinner with all the left over wine will follow. As usual it will be a great day and a large crowd is expected. More details will be in the May newsletter.

**ART ITALIAN STYLE**

Through the years there have been many great artists and many great paintings. Many in the art world consider the three greatest paintings to be The Mona Lisa by DaVinci, The Last Supper by DaVinci and the Ceiling of the Sistine Chapel by Michelangelo. Three great paintings by two great Italian artists. Interestingly the two did not consider themselves to be painters. DaVinci, often referred to as the genius of geniuses, considered himself to be a scientist and Michelangelo, who gave us the statues of David and La Pieta, considered himself to be a sculptor. Whether artist, scientist or sculptor, they are a part of our great heritage.

**PLANNING FOR FESTA UNDERWAY**

Planning for this year’s Festa is now underway. There will be some changes this year. This year’s Festa will be a two day affair and will take place on Saturday and Sunday, July 19th and 20th. The dates selected were the dates for the Mount Carmel Festa which will not take place this year. The Festa promises to be bigger and better than ever. The Lodge’s Festa is a standalone affair and will not be a part of the Hamburg Street Festival. This year’s Chair again will be 2nd VP Tony Cervera and Tony is looking for volunteers. As one might expect a Festa requires a great many volunteers. If you would like to volunteer please contact Tony at 518 365-7581. He will be glad to hear from you.

**AIHA ITALIAN EASTER BAKE SALE**

The American Italian Heritage Association and Museum will be having its annual Easter Bake Sale on Saturday April 19. Again this year’s AIHA Sale will feature traditional Easter Italian baked goods at very reasonable prices. In addition to Sfogliatelle, cannoli and classic Italian cookies the sale will include the following items baked and provided by Bella Napoli Bakery in Latham: Ham and Cheese Pie, Ricotta Pie, Ricotta Rice Pie, Easter Bread, Guanti and Paski Bread. Orders must be placed and paid for by 2 PM on Saturday April 12. For more information please call the museum at 518 435-1979

**IT’S SUNDAY BREAKFAST TIME- APRIL 27TH**

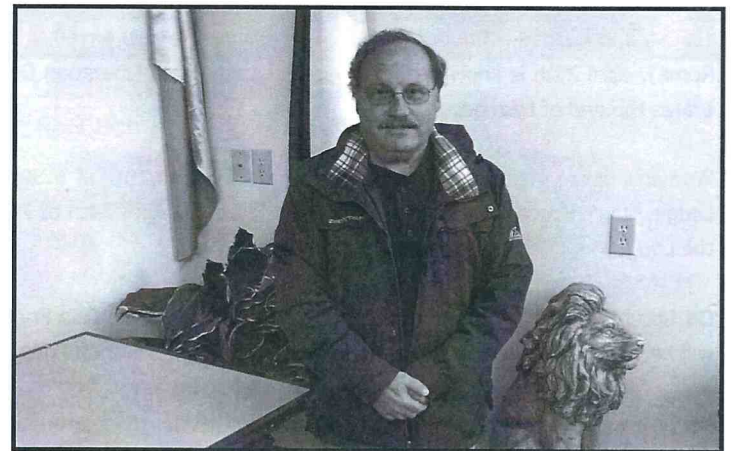
The Lodge will hold another Sunday Morning Breakfast on Sunday, April 27th from 9 to 11:30 AM. The breakfasts have proven to be a popular item with an increasing number of members starting their Sundays with a delicious breakfast and enjoyable conversation with their friends. A number of members have asked to have the breakfasts continued so the Lodge has elected to do so. Donations are \$10 per person and no reservations required.

**HELP WANTED**

Volunteer male or female driver for a few hours on 1 day per week to transport Veterans to the Albany VA hospital for appointments. Transportation vehicle provided from the Rotterdam police station. All you need is a clean driver’s license. Excellent opportunity to give back just a little bit of your time for what these veterans sacrificed to protect our American way of life. Please call Richard Pidgeon at (518)356-0288 for more information.

**Quick Fact About Italy**

With almost 40 million visitors, Italy is the fourth most visited country in the world. Italy is home to two microstates, San Marino and Vatican City . Cologne came out of Italy . The ice cream cone is an Italian invention.




**VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH**

The Volunteer of the Month for April is Fred Mastroianni. Several years ago Fred walked into the office and asked if any help was needed. The answer was YES. Shortly thereafter he was elected Financial Secretary. Since then he has served continuously as an officer alternating between Financial Secretary and Treasurer. He currently serves as Treasurer. He also has served as Commissioner of the Bocce League and is the captain of the present league champions. Thanks Fred, for all you do.

New York State Assemblyman  
**Angelo Santabarbara**  
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 Order Sons of Italy in America

George  
**Amedore**  
 Proud Member



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**NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

Submissions may be made by bringing the article to the Lodge Office to the attention of President Joe Battaglia; email the article to Porthuron59@msn.com

**BUSINESS CARD ADS**

Any member, interested in having their Business Card, in 321's Newsletter; Please, contact Fran Pugliese 518 372-8798 OR email Fran, at: puganthony@aol.com

**HALL RENTALS**

The Lodge has two halls available for rent. The large hall can accommodate 125 people and the small hall is suitable for up to 25 people. In the past the halls have been used for bridal showers, graduation parties, small weddings, Sweet Sixteen parties, baptismal parties, birthday parties, meetings, funeral receptions and a variety of other functions. Please contact Richard Pidgeon at 518 356-0288 for information regarding pricing, availability and other information.

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of Our Deceased Member(s)

**Catherine Haggerty**



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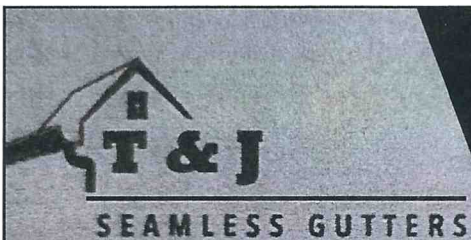
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### AUGURI A TUTTI!

The following Sons and Daughters of Lodge 321 will celebrate a birthday this month. Be sure to wish them a **Buon Compleanno** on their special day.

#### BIRTHDAYS

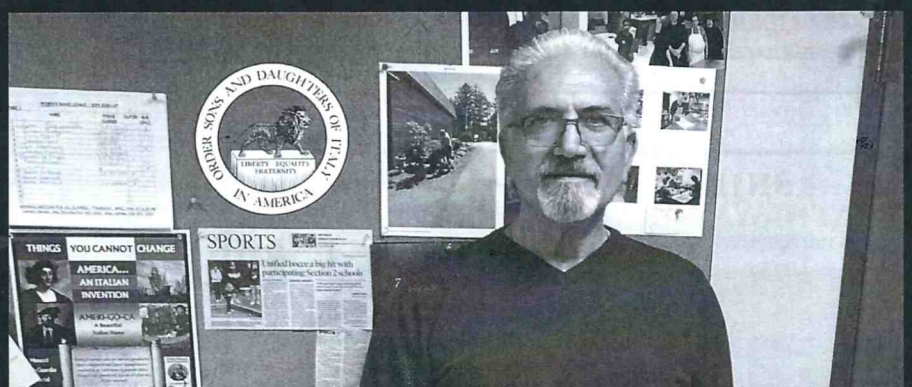
1. Angela Posilovic
2. George Amedore, James Butler,  
Nicola D'Agostino
3. Giovanna DeFilippo
8. Amerigo Reale
9. Peter Emmi
13. Albert Bergami, Peter Rizzo,  
Michael Mastroianni
14. Peter Frisoni, Jr.
15. James Bergami
22. Ronald Zadrozny
24. Donald Tessitore
26. Pasquale Corniello, Teresa Swanson
30. Richard Bove, William Civile

#### CONTACT & HOURS

**Phone:** 518-355-7500  
**Address:** 2984 Hamburg Street  
Schenectady, NY 12303  
**Email:** osialodge321@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.osialodge321.org  
**Facebook:** Order Sons of Italy in America  
Gabriele d'Annunzio Lodge 321  
**Hours:** Open 8:30am - 10:30am Daily  
6:30pm - 10:00pm Mon - Fri

#### HAVE YOU MOVED? CHANGED YOUR PHONE NUMBER?

If you have moved or changed your phone number, please contact the Lodge Office at (518) 355-7500 with the updated information.



Meet Antonio (Tony) Puerto. Tony was born on June 7, 1953 in the small town of Ruviano in the province of Caserta to Giovanni and Angelina Puerto. The family also included his brother Alfonso. Unfortunately when Tony was only eight years of age his father died in a scooter accident. Tony was placed in a seminary school for two years in the city of Alife and then spent another two years in school in the city of Aversa. He finally returned home to Ruviano at the age of fourteen for his final year of schooling where he completed seconda media.

After Tony completed his schooling the family received some good news. The documents for immigration to America were ready. The family left for Naples to meet with the Italian Consulate, to get the necessary shots and to pass the required physical exam. The family left Italy on June 14, 1968 and arrived in America after spending seven days on the ship Michelangelo. It was early in the morning of June 21st when the family was awoken to see the Statue of Liberty as they were passing by. It was an unforgettable moment with everyone cheering and rejoicing because they had finally arrived in America. Tony and the family were met by relatives and driven to Schenectady.

The family stayed at Tony's aunt's house for a brief period until they could get enough money together to rent a house on Hattie Street. Tony's aunt had been born in Waterbury, Conn. and because she was an American citizen the family was able to come to America. Tony was 15 years of age and knew no English. Nevertheless he went to Avon Market and got a job working after school. During the day he went to Oneida Jr. High School and then on to Linton High School where he graduated in 1972. Following school he worked at a number of jobs including working in the kitchen at Ellis Hospital, as a mason's helper, as a painter with his cousin Romeo, back to Ellis as a maintenance worker and then GE for 6 years before getting laid off. Tony then enrolled in the Europa School of Cosmetology where he graduated got a diploma and license and has worked as a cosmetologist ever since.

In 1984 the good news continued, Tony married Kim Darpino! Together to their great joy they raised three children Gabriella, Giovanna and Gianluca and have been blessed with two grandchildren Lucy and Massimiliano.

There were difficult days in the past but now there are good days.

# Calendario Di Gabriele



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## Calendario Di Gabriele

### Officers' Meeting

April 7 at 7 PM

### General Membership

April 21 at 7 PM

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### Riunione Degli Ufficiali

7 Aprile 7 PM

### Assemblea Generale

21 Aprile 7 PM

### UPCOMING LODGE EVENTS

April Fish Fry	April 18	4-6:30 PM
Sunday Breakfast	April 27	9-11:30 AM
Wine Tasting Contest	May 17	3 PM
Festa	July 19-20	2-7:30 PM

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