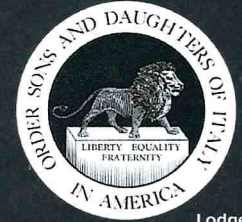




January 2025

il Giornale di Gabriele

In Schenectady Since 1915



Lodge 321

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

January 2025 is here another year behind us. I hope 2024 was a good year for all the members and their families. If it was not, I hope 2025 will be a much better year. It was a difficult year at the Lodge with the changing of officers in the middle of the year. I would like to thank everyone that helped make it a smooth transition.



We had one of our major events of the year, our Seven Fish Dinner on December 14th, it was a huge success. We served 124 guests a Seven Course Dinner. It was truly a lot of work. I would like to thank all the volunteers who made the event a great success. I would also like to thank all the members who donated baskets to be raffled off. It was truly great to see the Lodge full of people again having a wonderful time. This year we will try to do more events like that. To bring members back to the Lodge.

On January 6th in Italy, they celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, it is a National Holiday, the tradition of La Befana is a big part of the Italian Christmas celebration. Epiphany commemorates the 12th day of Christmas when the three Wise Men arrived at the manger bearing gifts for Baby Jesus. The tale of La Befana is an old woman with magical powers brings goodies and gifts to the children on the eve of the Epiphany.

Our first fundraiser of the year will be a Comedy Night on January 4th. We will have a buffet dinner at 5:00 pm, then the show will begin after dinner. The price will be \$30. Tickets are on sale at the bar. Please plan on attending. The Nominating Committee will be contacting the members who expressed interest in becoming an Officer for the next two-year term. They will be conducting interviews for those positions that are available.

Lastly, the Membership Dues Notices were mailed out at the end of October. As I am writing this letter, we still have not heard from numerous members who have not responded. We will be contacting them by phone. I hope everyone will renew their membership.

As always, PLEASE support the Lodges Fundraising efforts, they help to keep the Lodge going strong. I would personally like to thank all the volunteers who helped throughout the year with all our events. Without their help nothing would have been accomplished.

I would like to wish everyone a healthy and prosperous New Year.

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** Joseph Restifo
- Recording Secretary** Francis Pugliese
- Corresponding Secretary** Janice Libertucci
- Financial Secretary** Fred Mastroianni
- Treasurer** Carmen Libertucci
- Principal Trustee** Ray Haines
- Trustees** James Battaglia, Anna Califano, Angelina Fondano Haines, Brian Vattimo, Michael Masucci and John DeGeorgio
- Mistresses of Ceremony** Carolann Renna, Flora Popolizio Marotta
- Sentinel** Candida Suraci
- NYS Trustee** Lisa Serafini
- Dist. 6 Deputy** Anthony Geddes
- Lodge Chaplain** Rev. Dominic Isopo
- Membership Chairperson** Dom Cafarelli
- Public & Community Relations** Dolores Scalise, Cesare Maniccia
- Fund-Raising** Anthony Cervera
- Kitchen Chairpersons** Amerigo Reali
- House Chairpersons** John DeGeorgio
- Hall Rentals** Richard Pidgeon
- Bar Chairperson** Joseph Restifo
- Cultural Affairs Chairperson** Cesare Maniccia
- Photographers & Newsletter** Gene & Linda Loparco,
- Groundskeeper** Giuseppe Riccio
- Veterans Affairs Chair** Eugene Loparco

Upcoming Meetings

- Officers' Meeting** JAN 6 7:00PM
- General Meeting** JAN 20 7:00PM

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee recommends the following slate of officers for approval at the January 20 General Meeting:

- President:** Joe Battaglia
- 1st VP:** Dom Cafarelli
- 2nd VP:** Anthony Cervera
- Orator:** David Denofio
- Recording Secretary:** Fran Pugliese
- Corresponding Secretary:** Jan Libertucci
- Financial Secretary:** Carm Libertucci
- Treasurer:** Fred Mastroianni
- Trustees:** Jim Battaglia, Dave Bonitatibus, Anna Califano, John DeGeorgio, John Della Porto, Ray Haines, Michael Masucci, Carolann Renna, Joe Restifo, Brian Vattimo
- Mistress of Ceremony:** Franca Della Porta, Lena Pasquariello
- Sentinel:** Barry Van Steele

Other nominations may be made from the floor at the meeting. Anyone nominated from the floor must be present at the meeting to accept the nomination. In the event there are nominations from the floor an election will be scheduled for those positions (other than trustee) for which there is more than one nominee.

DUES ARE OVERDUE

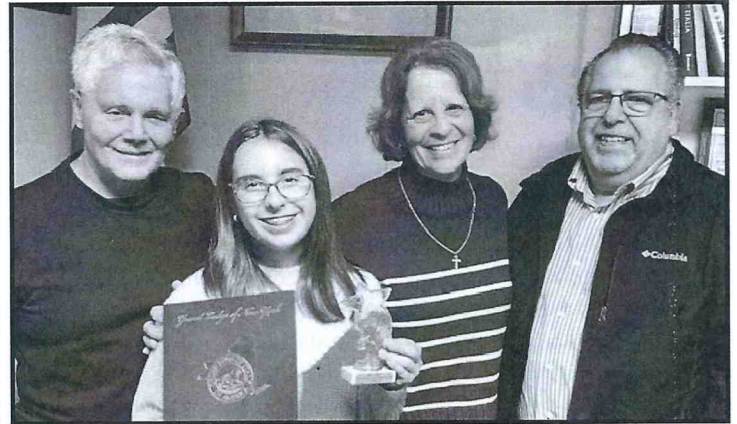
Dues for 2025 were due no later than December 31st. However, in response to a number of requests, the Grand Lodge has extended the deadline to January 15th. The Lodge, as a gentle reminder, will be contacting those members who have not responded. Those who have not responded are asked to do so ASAP thereby cutting down on the number of calls to be made. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

A LIST OF EVENTS FOR 2025

Included in this newsletter is a list of major events that have been scheduled for 2025. During the year additional events will be planned and scheduled. As those events are scheduled, the Lodge will announce the details related to the various events. If anyone has suggestions regarding events they would like to see, please call the Lodge and let us know. Ideas are always welcome!

COMEDY NIGHT RETURNS

Comedy Night returns on Saturday, January 4th after a break of several years. Please note the hours. The evening will begin at 5PM with a delicious Italian Buffet followed by a fabulous show featuring three comedians at 6:30PM. Tickets are \$30 per person and are available by calling the Lodge at 518 355-7500. Comedy Nights in the past have been very popular and it is expected that the January 4th show will sell out. Those planning to attend are encouraged to get their tickets as soon as possible.



DISTRICT VI ESSAY CONTEST WINNER

The Lodge is pleased and honored to announce that Guinevere Libertucci, an 8th grader at Burnt Hill Ballston Lake School District and granddaughter of Lodge members Carm and Jan Libertucci, was the District VI winner of the New York State Grand Lodge Essay Contest. Guinevere's essay beautifully described her pride in her family's history and heritage. Guinevere is pictured with her grandparents and Lodge President Joe Battaglia. Congratulations on a job well done!

ANOTHER SUNDAY BREAKFAST-JANUARY 18TH

The Lodge has scheduled a Sunday Breakfast on January 18th from 9:00 to 11:30AM. As usual there will be plenty of delicious food. The cost is \$10 per person. No reservations necessary, just drop-in and enjoy a great breakfast.




VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

The Volunteer of the Month for January is the Lodge's Recording Secretary Fran Pugliese. Fran, in addition to his duties as Recording Secretary, has taken on a number of other responsibilities. He is responsible for soliciting and maintaining contact with advertisers in the newsletter and for selling tickets for the various Grand Lodge raffles. For several years he has represented the Lodge at the annual State Convention. Fran always participates in community events sponsored by the Lodge. Fran is a valuable asset to our Lodge and has been for many years!

New York State Assemblyman
Angelo Santabarbara
 Proud Member of Gabriele D'Annunzio Lodge 321,
 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 larger hall can accommodate up to 130 people and the smaller hall can accommodate 35 people. The halls are perfect for baptism parties, birthday parties, graduation parties, showers and other similar events. Please call Richard Pidgeon at 518 356-0288 for more information and scheduling. Scheduling early to ensure availability of the halls is encouraged.

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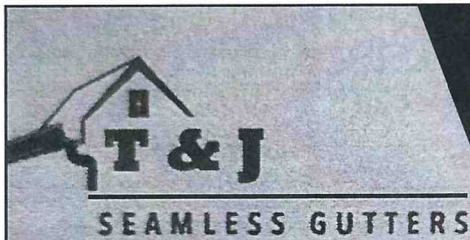
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AUGURI A TUTTI!

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. Nino Aliberti
2. Carol LaTorre, Salvina Marotta, Philip Pratico, Anthony Signore
5. Michael Badalucco Jr., Joanne Langley
7. Louis Fazzone, Antonio Serafini
9. Nick Barber
10. Luigi Gazillo, Joe Lanaro
12. Richard Fazzone
14. Theresa DeMarco Slovak
17. James Pavoldi, Frank Puglisi, Maria Russell, Renato Viscusi
20. Blanche Payne
22. Fred Whelan
23. Charles Montagnino
25. Orazio Maimone
26. Paul Romano
28. Dean Attanasio, Nana Squeglia
29. David Bonitatibus
30. Gerald Casso, Mike Stella
31. Mike Ferracane, Mike Pastorei

CONTACT & HOURS

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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

AIHA CHRISTMAS CONTINUES

The Christmas Presepe designed and erected by Lodge member Joe Anastasio will continue to be on display at the American Italian Heritage Museum throughout the month of January. Several people who have seen the display have commented on its beauty.

The Association also has a wide selection of wedding dresses that it is selling at incredible low prices. A number of people who have purchased wedding dresses have commented on the selection of dresses available and marveled at the low prices. It is well worth checking out for anyone with a wedding approaching. Please call 518 435-1979 for further information and appointments. Also check out the museum, it is one of the largest and best of its kind in the United States.



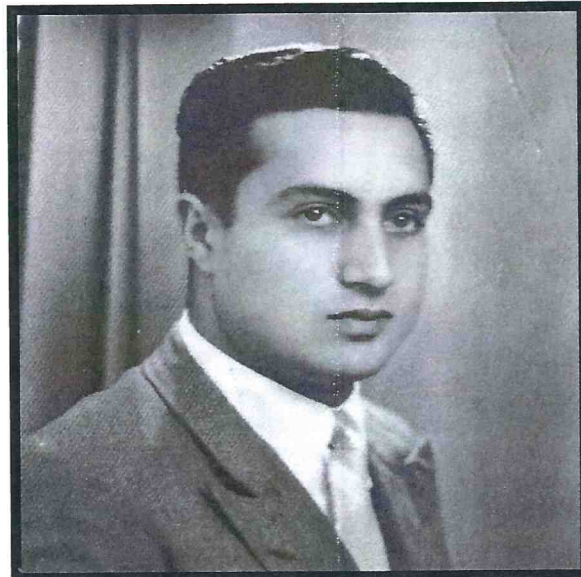
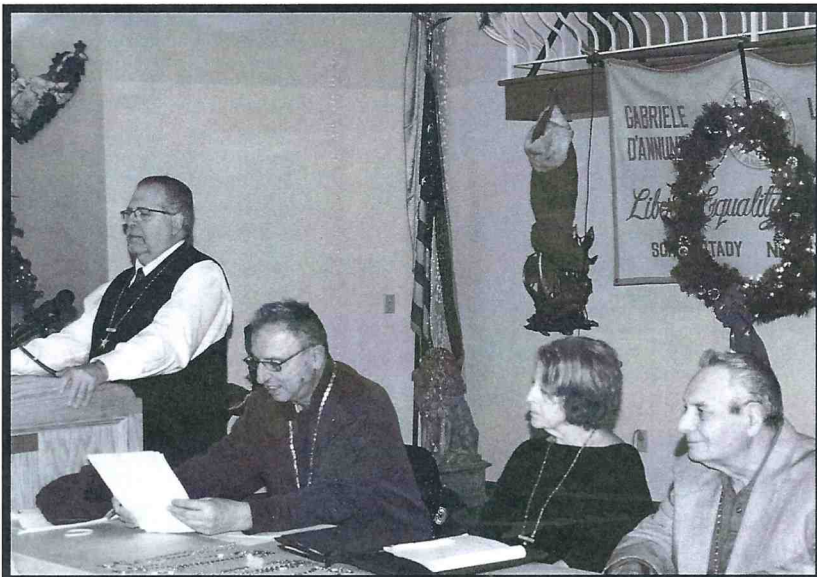
John DeMarco, born Giovanni on February 22, 1931 in San Giovanni e Paolo, Caserta, Italy. He is one of six children of Maria and Giuseppe DeMarco. He was in the Italian army before meeting his wife Elisa Piccirillo whom he married on October 18, 1956, in Italy. Elisa had already been a citizen of the United States before returning to marry him. John had to wait one year before coming to the U.S. with Elisa and boarded the USS. Independence in December of 1957 and arrived in Ellis Island in January of 1958.

John began working at Mont Pleasant Bakery after being in the United States for only 2 days. While working at the bakery, he attended night school in Schenectady to learn English and machine trade. He thereafter worked at G.E. for 30 years in the machine shop before retiring in April 1995.

John and Elisa have three children: Maria, Carol, and John; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. His hobbies included being in a bowling league for G.E., playing in a golf league, making homemade wine, tending the garden, growing grapes, making sauce, hunting for asparagus and mushrooms on the side of the road, and much more throughout his 93 years of life.

Throughout his 67 years of marriage, he spent much time attending events and gatherings at the Sons of Italy with his beloved and dearly missed wife, Elisa. Whether it be breakfast after church, attending meetings, or making cookies for an event, the Sons of Italy was a special place for them. He still continues to attend the club with his generous neighbor each week for coffee and breakfast to visit with his family and friends.

Event Photos • Foto di Eventi



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Calendario Di Gabriele

Officers' Meeting
 January 6 at 7 PM
General Membership
 January 20 at 7 PM

Riunione Degli Ufficiali
 6 Gennaio 7 PM
Assemblea Generale
 20 Gennaio 7 PM

UPCOMING LODGE EVENTS

Comedy Night	Jan 4	5:00PM
Sunday Breakfast	Jan 18	9 - 11:30AM

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