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*The Newsletter of the  
Lancaster Italian Cultural Society*



# L'Osservatore Lancastriano

## President's Message

This will be my last message as President of LICS.

For the last 2 years it has been my honor to serve you, and I thank you for the opportunity. I have been thinking about the last 11 years, and especially the last 2 as your President and what it has meant to me.

It has always been my intention to keep LICS alive, well and financially sound. It was not always easy. Of course, there had been some challenges but, in the end, we held together and accomplished what we intended.

There were a few accomplishments I am most proud of. One of which was to give recognition for community service and volunteerism of our members. "The Italian American of the Year Award" does exactly that. I have also encouraged cultural awareness by introducing our Greek brothers and sisters to the "Multi-Cultural Event" which is held every year at the Lancaster Liederkrantz. This year our scholarship program excelled and 2014 will see the society award and additional scholarship bringing the total to three awards to deserving students.

To keep up with the "Times", E-Blasts took flight during my administration thanks to my Vice President, John Vilella and for the first time, in 2014, I initiated an audit to maintain consistency in our financial records.

In conclusion, let us continue to teach our children of our rich heritage, and to keep an open mind to all people so that we, as Italians and Italian Americans will stay strong.



May God Bless You and Bring Peace to Your Heart and Joy for the New Year.

Jeannie Hubbs,  
President

## New Year's Eve in Italy

December 31<sup>st</sup>, New Year's Eve in Italy, is called La Festa di San Silvestro. As with most Italian festivals, food, family and friends play a major role. Lentils symbolize money and good fortune for the New Year and are the main item on the Italian menu. Traditional dining includes "cotechino", a large spiced sausage, or "zampone", part of a stuffed pig. We can relate to having pork on New Year's Day and in Italy it symbolizes the richness of life in the coming year.



As in many parts of the world, Italy boasts midnight fireworks. Public displays are held in the central square of many towns and festivities include private parties which put their own mark on the celebration. Naples is known for having one of the biggest and best New Year's fireworks display while smaller towns may build a bonfire for people to gather around to bring in the New Year. If you are near a port, you will hear loud horns from the harbored ships and boats. Dancing and live music can be found in almost all larger cities.

Tombola, a game similar to our Bingo, is very popular at this time of year and is played both at private parties and in the public squares.

Prosecco and spumante are the wines of choice and are consumed much like our champagne.

An old custom of the south is throwing your old things out the window to symbolize the readiness to accept the New Year. If you find yourself in southern Italy at this time, be careful walking below windows!

One more thing--be sure to wear red underwear-it is said to bring good luck in the New Year.

Here are a couple of traditions in some of Italy's larger cities:

**Rome:**

Large crowds gather in the Piazza del Popolo to celebrate New Year's Eve with pop, rock and classical music, dancing and fireworks. On New Year's Day, children take center stage and are entertained by acrobats. At the Santa Maria del Popolo church, there is a traditional nativity scene which represents many areas of Italy. Live music highlights the Colosseum with midnight fireworks.



**Naples and Capri:** Lo Sciusco is a tradition which originated in Naples and is still continued in some smaller towns. Groups of amateur musicians, mostly children, go from house to house playing and singing on New Year's Eve. A small gift of money or candy is given to them to bring good luck while turning them away may bring bad luck.

**Bologna:** An ox is decorated from horns to tail with flowers and ribbons. Church bells ring and fireworks are set off. At the end, a special lottery is held and the winner gets to keep the ox. At midnight, an effigy of an old man is thrown into a bonfire in the Piazza Maggiore.

**Venice:** St. Mark's Square has a huge celebration with music and fireworks and a group kiss held at midnight.



New Year's Day often sees many bathers taking a chilling dip at Lido Beach.

The Officers and Board of the Lancaster Italian Cultural Society wish all of you a very Happy New Year!

This is the fifteenth in a series on:  
The Regions of Italy

**Sardinia**

Sardinia happens to be the second largest island in the Mediterranean Sea (Sicily is the largest). It is one of the five autonomous regions which means the Italian Constitution gives it special administrative autonomy. Sardinia has eight provinces and Cagliari is the capital and largest city.

The name Sardinia is pre-Roman and suggests a religious meaning related to the ancient Sardinian mythological hero-god Sardus Peter, meaning Sardinian Father.

Because of its geofomation, Sardinia is not earthquake-prone which is a feeling of security enjoyed by the inhabitants.

Sardinia is an ancient land most probably populated beginning in the Paleolithic period until today. From about 1500 BC, there is evidence of villages and fortresses called nuraghi, which served as lookout towers and guarded the populace. Nuraghi buildings can still be found in various places of the island landscape.



Sardinia was at one time a center of commerce and controlled the extraction of raw materials such as copper and lead which were important to other countries.

Around 1,000 BC, the Phoenicians visited the island and, in time, took over the silver and lead mines and established a military presence in 650 BC. In 509 BC, the Sardinians staged a series of attacks against the Phoenicians but with the help of Carthage, the Phoenicians kept control of the island.

In 238 BC, Rome defeated Carthage and took control of Sardinia making it a Roman province which lasted for about 700 years. For a time, the Byzantine Empire ruled Sardinia and the island was divided into districts governed by a judge from Caralis which is modern day Cagliari. Christianity became the dominant religion and gave rise to Saint Basil, who we know today as the patron of throat disease.

In 1297, Pope Boniface VIII established the Kingdom of Sardinia and Corsica to settle a war. But in 1324, the Kingdom came under Peter IV of Aragon who, in 1353, granted a parliament and some degree of self-government. In 1479, a royal marriage resulted in the Habsburgs creating the Kingdom of Sardinia which in short order fell under Spanish domination for almost 400 years until 1720. In 1848, the Kingdom of Sardinia advocated and led the effort for the Unification of Italy and actually changed its name to the Kingdom of Italy. During the first and second world wars, Sardinia was an important base for military operations. When Italy became a republic in 1946, Sardinia was granted special autonomy by the Italian Constitution which gives the region the right to create its own laws and carry out administrative functions on its own.

Today, Sardinia enjoys a diversified and vibrant economy which focuses on tourism and technology. Several telecommunication companies and internet providers are based on the island with successful international operations. While Italian is the official language, most speak Sardu, a distinct branch of the Romance language. Not considered a dialect, it is even accepted on certain documents. The population of just under 2 million live in a modern society and are congenial hosts to the many visitors.

**LICS Italian-American of the Year Award**

By: Jay Butterfield, Chair, Award Committee



James J. Lombardo was awarded the second annual Italian American of the Year Award at the Christmas party in December 2013.

President Jeannie Hubbs presents the 2014 Italian American of the Year Award to James J Lombardo

Although all nominees were very strong and deserving of the award, James was selected for several reasons including the following:

A second generation Italian-American, James served his community as Assistant to the mayor of Lancaster from 1970-71.

He is also the former treasurer of the Library System of Lancaster County. He served for two years on the East Hempfield Township Planning Commission, eleven years on the East Hempfield Township Zoning Hearing Board, and currently is the Secretary of the Manheim Township General Municipal Authority.

His contribution to the Italian community includes serving as a trustee and president of the former Lancaster Italian-American Citizens Club, served as vice president of the former Lancaster Sons of Italy Lodge, and he formed and served as President of the Lancaster Bocce League for many years. James is a charter member of Lancaster Italian Cultural Society, served as a board member, vice-president and is the current editor of the newsletter. He chaired the By-Law Revision Committee and Program Committee which identified speakers on cultural affairs for general meetings. He and his wife Karen became Italian Citizens in 2013.

Mr. Lombardo authored a book on the history of the Lancaster Italian Community at the request of the Lancaster County Historical Society. He also wrote a book, "Italian Shoemakers of Lancaster". James was appointed by Governor Tom Ridge to be Executive Director of the Governor's Center for Local Government Services during which he received several awards from the PA State Association of Township Supervisors, the County Commissioners Association of PA, the PA League of Cities and Municipalities and the PA State Association of Boroughs. He represented the Governor in Italy for the creation of sister cities between Gualdo Tadino in Umbria and West Pittston in Luzerne County, PA.

Jim and his wife, Karen, live in Lititz and have two daughters, Gina and Andrea (married to Aaron Ebling) and one grandson Anthony.

For his service to the greater Lancaster community and the Lancaster Italian Cultural Society in particular, James J. Lombardo is the recipient of the second Italian-American of the Year Award for 2014.



Italian American of the Year award winner for 2014, Jim Lombardo, and 2013 Charlie Criniti.

**Get Well:**

**Nick Zangari**  
**Dolores Biedenkapp**

**Bravo:**

Ben Forster, a member of the Blue Man Group, performed at Hershey Theater in November. He is the son of **Anne Butterfield**.

Gabriel Di Lazzaro graduated from Penn State York with an Associate Degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology. His parents are **Joseph and Victoria Di Lazzaro**.

**Gina Lombardo** graduated magna cum laude from Albright College with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Organizational Behavior/Applied Psychology. She is the daughter of **James J. and Karen Lombardo**.

**Ann DeLaurentis and Fred Rodger**, two of Lancaster's leading artists, were featured in the January 5th edition of the Lancaster Sunday News. They shared their reasons for becoming artists.

**Congratulations to:**

**Jeannie and Bruce Hubbs** celebrated their 45th anniversary on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Joanna and Joe Pawlikowski** celebrated their 50th anniversary on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Ed and Connie Savoca** celebrated 60 years of marriage on November 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Aaron and Andrea Lombardo-Ebling** on the birth of their son, Anthony Lee, on November 13, 2013. His grandparents are **James and Karen Lombardo**.

**Condolences to:**

**Jennie Beam and Family** on the passing of her brother, John DiFava, Jr.

**Linda Rasmuson and Family** on the passing of her father, **Alterio Moccia**.

**Craig and Dianne Roda and Family** on the passing of his mother, E. Carlene Roda.

**Barbara and David Lombardo and Family** on the passing of her father, J. Robert Charles.

**Greg and Valerie Faiola and Family** on the passing of his father Herman Faiola, Sr.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS****CARNEVALE 2014**

Carnevale 2014 will be here before you know it. The enthusiasm and response for Carnevale 2013 was wonderful. Now it's time, once again, to prepare for this wonderful Italian tradition. All the fun --- great music, fine dancing, delicious dinner, prizes, entertainment and more is being planned.

**e-Blast**

LICS is now communicating with the membership via the Constant Contact Internet Marketing Service. If your e-mail address is listed with LICS, then you have already been receiving e-Blasts from the Society.

The "From" address will be: "**Lancaster Italian Cultural Society[johnnyv4@comcast.net]**".  
The "Subject" heading will be: "**News From the Lancaster Italian Cultural Society**"

We currently have 200 e-mail addresses listed in our Constant Contact Marketing account. The e-mail addresses in this account are strictly for communication to our membership and are not being used by any other organization or marketing activity.

For those members who have e-mail addresses but are not currently included in our e-Blast e-mail listing, simply contact Jennie DiCola at 393-4595 and provide your e-mail address. Or send an e-mail with your request to John Villella at [johnnyv4@comcast.net](mailto:johnnyv4@comcast.net).

John Villella  
Vice-President

**2014**  
**CALENDAR FOR MEETINGS AND EVENTS**  
**(Subject to Change)**

<b>Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Carnevale</b>	<b>Bent Creek</b>
<b>Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>LICS General Meeting &amp; Election</b>	<b>Liederkrantz</b>
<b>Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>LICS Scholarship Awards/Program</b>	<b>Liederkrantz</b>
<b>Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>LICS 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b>	<b>Lancaster Country Club</b>
<b>Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Dance Under the Stars</b>	<b>Liederkrantz Pavilion</b>
<b>Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Multi Cultural Fest</b>	<b>Liederkrantz Pavilion</b>
<b>Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>LICS Annual Picnic</b>	<b>Liederkrantz Pavilion</b>
<b>Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>LICS Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser</b>	<b>St. John Neumann Church</b>
<b>Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>LICS General Meeting</b>	<b>Liederkrantz</b>
<b>Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>LICS Christmas Party</b>	<b>Eden Resort</b>

### **The 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

The Lancaster Italian Cultural Society is celebrating another important milestone in its history.

Members will be invited to attend “**Il Quindicesimo Anniversario**” on **Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>**. The Lancaster Country Club will be the venue for an evening of delicious food, camaraderie with friends and shared memories of LICS. Our entertainment will be the fabulous Fulvio Ranni and his band. They have performed at St. Anthony’s Festival in Delaware and played in concert at the Piazzas Carini and Terrasini, Italy. I’m sure their lively Italian music will add to this very festive occasion.

There will be wonderful door prizes and many beautiful raffle baskets for our “Asta Italiana” (Italian Auction). Monies collected will be donated to the **Wounded Warriors Project**.

Please plan on attending this special celebration as we commemorate 15 years of our Italian history as the Lancaster Italian Cultural Society.

Warm Regards,

Ann Marie Petrone  
 Chairperson

### Forgotten History

A little known historical fact involves an Italian Doctor and the purchase of Alaska. You may ask, how does this relate? Well here's the story:

In 1829 Tullio Suzzara Verdi (no relation to the famous opera composer) was born in Italy. At age 18 he became a political fugitive due to his involvement in the Italian unification and fled to England and then New York. Here he learned English and in 1854 enrolled at Hahnemann Medical College in Philadelphia. He eventually married and moved to establish a practice in Washington, D.C.

As his practice grew, the then Abraham Lincoln's Secretary of State, William Seward, became a patient. Just prior to Lincoln's assassination, he was injured in a horse carriage accident breaking his arm and fracturing his jaw. Dr. Verdi treated Seward by making a metal neck brace for his jaw and setting his arm.

Nine days later the assassination plot was put into motion and as a part of that conspiracy, Vice President Johnson and Seward were also targeted for assassination. Lewis Payne Powell was given the task of killing Seward. He talked his way into Seward's house and as Seward's son tried to stop him, he shot the son but the gun misfired. Powell then smashed the gun into the son's head and entered Seward's bedroom, stabbing a bodyguard in the process. Powell then proceeded to stab Seward in the face and neck but Dr. Verdi's metal brace saved Seward's life. Dr. Verdi, who lived close by, was called, stopped the bleeding and treated Seward's wounds as well as the others who were injured. He is credited with saving Seward's life. Had Verdi gone to Ford's theater as he had originally planned, he would have attended Lincoln himself.

Verdi went on to serve on the National Board of Health and was elected president of the National Homeopathic Hospital in Washington. If he had gone to the theater and not treated Seward, the Secretary of State would most probably have perished leaving the question of whether or not Seward's greatest achievement, the purchase of Alaska from Russia in 1867 would have occurred.

You be the judge.

### Lancaster Italian Cultural Society Officers

#### **President - Jeannie M. Hubbs**

Phone: 569-6965 [jeanniemhubbs@comcast.net](mailto:jeanniemhubbs@comcast.net)

#### **Vice President - John Villella**

Phone: 569-2203 [johnnyv4@comcast.net](mailto:johnnyv4@comcast.net)

#### **Treasurer- David Ferruzza**

Phone: 569-6909 [ferruzzad@etown.edu](mailto:ferruzzad@etown.edu)

#### **Secretary - Helen Ebersole**

Phone: 393-3663 [helenno5@aol.com](mailto:helenno5@aol.com)

#### **Newsletter Committee**

James J. Lombardo, Editor

Ann Marie Petrone

Karen J. Lombardo

#### **Board Members**

George Belforti

Anita Bomberger

Jay Butterfield

Makila Carello

Stephanie DiCola

Rosemary LaFata

Frank Provanzo

Dominic "Nick" Siviglia

Past President: Jennie DiCola

#### **Webmaster**

Lee Gerhart

### **NOTICE**

**TO OBTAIN MEMBERSHIP  
INFORMATION OR APPLICATION  
FORM PLEASE CONTACT:**

**ANITA BOMBERGER @ 569-2724**

**Thank you for making the 2013 Spaghetti Dinner a resounding success.**

This year's spaghetti dinner was another successful Society event. Our 50 volunteers served 444 dinners in the hall and there were 86 takeout orders, making this year one of the very best.

Not everyone may know that 100% of the Spaghetti Dinner proceeds go to LICS Scholarship Fund. With this year's earnings, for the first time, we will be awarding **three** \$2,000 scholarships. I really cannot thank the people and organizations enough for their work to make LICS 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Spaghetti Dinner a great success, but I'll try.

- Thank you to the dedicated committee members and volunteers for their unbelievable efforts.
- Thank you to our sponsors and gift card donors. Those monies put us over the top.
- Thank you to our food, drink, and container donors. Without them we would not have had a spaghetti dinner at all.
- Thank you to the Bake Sale contributors. It was the best ever.
- Thank you to St. John Neumann Church and its parishioners for all their support and contributions.
- Thank you to the Lancaster Bocce League for their participation.
- And...Thank you to all our LICS members whose generosity every year makes this a successful fundraising event. Without you, we could not do it.

Grazie,

George Belforti,  
2013 Spaghetti Dinner Chairman





## Christmas Party

By: David Ferruzza

On Sunday, December 15, 2013, LICS celebrated its annual Christmas Party at the Eden Resort. This year's event had many memorable highlights. Initially, we were greeted with the beautiful and newly renovated Crystal Ballroom. A congenial atmosphere was enhanced by lots of space for 80 members to mingle and eat tasty appetizers, while the talented keyboardist, Jake Huber, played seasonal background music. The round tables were great for conversation and the eye-catching centerpieces, after serving their purpose in decorating the tables, were given to one person at each table. There were also many door prizes won by some of the attendees.

To begin the festivities, President **Jeannie Hubbs** welcomed everyone and then offered the blessing before our meal. We enjoyed a delicious dinner with the company of family and friends.

As is our tradition at LICS events, money was collected for a 50/50 raffle. At Christmas, 50% is donated to a charity in our community. The other 50% was given to two lucky winners, **Mike Mastromatteo** and **Judy Siviglia**. Party Chairperson and super organizer **Ann Marie Petrone** announced that the **S. June Smith Center** would receive this year's donation of \$200. This organization helps children with disabilities in achieving their potential and promotes participation within their families, school, and communities.

The recipient of the 2014 Italian-American Award, **James J. Lombardo**, was announced by Chairperson, **Jay Butterfield**. Jim was unable to attend the party, but received a standing ovation for his many years of service, dedication and contributions to the Lancaster Italian Cultural Society and to Lancaster and its community. Congratulations, Jim!

This year's entertainment was extra-special. Our own **Rick Bernhardt**, with his sons **Samuel** and **Xander**, his brother **David**, and keyboardist **Jake Huber**, provided a varied and festive program that included a Christmas carol sing-along. Lovely voices and happy smiles filled the room. Rick's beautiful and poignant Italian solo, "Per Te", was sung in memory of their mother and Nonna, **Maria Martello Bernhardt**.



**2014**  
**NOMINATIONS FOR LICS OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS**

**In November, President Jeannie Hubbs appointed a nominating committee to recommend a slate of officers and board members to be voted upon at the annual March meeting. The names below represent the nominating committee report. Please review the candidate names and biographies in order to vote at the March meeting. Nominations may also be made from the floor at that meeting.**

**FOR PRESIDENT: Charles Criniti**

Charlie Criniti was born in Badolato, Italy. He has lived in Lancaster for 32 years with his wife, Sherry and is retired from Jay Scott Home Builders.

Charlie has been an active member of LICS for many years. He served as a board member, is involved in the Bocce League and volunteers for various events. Charlie has been the Chairperson for the annual Spaghetti Dinner/Scholarship Fundraiser for the past 5 years. For 2013, Charlie was chosen as the recipient of the first LICS Italian-American Award. If elected, Charlie would like to see an increase in member participation at meetings with an emphasis on educational and cultural programs.

**FOR VICE-PRESIDENT: Frank Provanzo**

Frank is a native of Hazelton, PA and has resided in Lancaster for 34 years. He and his wife, Linda, have been active members of LICS for the past 6 years. They have 3 children and 2 grandchildren. Frank is a Board Member of the Lancaster County Building Industry. Since becoming a LICS member, he has been involved in the annual Spaghetti Dinner/Fundraiser and served as Co-chair in 2013. It has been an honor and privilege for Frank to serve on the LICS board and he has enjoyed meeting new members. He looks forward to continuing his service to the society if elected.

**FOR SECRETARY: Helen Ebersole**

Helen, Italian from her mother's side, has been a member of The Lancaster Italian Cultural Society (LICS) since 1999. She served for seven years on the board as Education Chair and started the LICS Italian Classes which ran for three years. She also served for one year as Scholarship Chair.

In addition, Helen was the Chairperson for the LICS Special Event 5<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary and committee member for the 10<sup>th</sup> Year and for many of the Carnevale celebrations. This past year she served on the LICS board as interim Secretary.

Helen works out and manifests her love for animals by volunteering to assist in animal welfare causes.

## **FOR TREASURER: David Ferruzza**

David Ferruzza was appointed in February 2013, and is running for his first full term as TREASURER. Both of David's parents were born in Petralia Sottano, Sicilia, and he is a first generation American. David and his family moved from Germany to Lancaster in 1980 when he retired from the United States Air Force. Since 1980, he was first Director of Engineering at Clark Filter until 1990, and then a professor of Engineering and Physics at Elizabethtown College, retiring in 2006. David has enjoyed being LICS Treasurer and wishes to continue serving.

## **FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **George Belforti**

George Belforti is a second generation Italian. He is married to Patsy (second generation Polish). They have one son, Geoff. George is completing his first term as a board member and would like to continue on the board for a second term. Currently, he is the Chairperson of the annual Spaghetti Dinner. Grazie.

### **Rudy DeLaurentis**

Rudy DeLaurentis is a life long Lancastrian. His grandparents on his father's side were from Italy. His Nonna was from Pentidattilo in Reggio Calabria, and his Nonno was from Ostuni in Pulia. Rudy remembers going to the Italian-American Club with his dad on Sunday mornings where the ladies were making pizza and meatballs, and all the kids ran around and played, just waiting for a slice of pizza. Rudy and his wife, Ann, celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary in Venice, Italy in 1998. When he returned from that trip, he saw a letter to the editor from Al Rossi about not losing the Italian culture. He called Al, they got together and plans were laid for what was to become the Lancaster Italian Cultural Society. Rudy was the first president of LICS and remembers all the wonderful events, cultural experiences and friendships that ensued. Rudy served as President -1999-2001, and on the Newsletter Committee -1999-2009, Decimo (10th)Anniversary Celebration Committee-2009. Sollevare-Italian Folk Dance Troupe-2009-2012. Rudy states, "I am thankful for all the efforts by the present and past board members who have faithfully served the LICS membership. I would be honored to serve on this year's board of directors. I look forward to working with the members to help make our society the best it can be."

### **Rosemary LaFata**

Rosemary LaFata has served 5 years as LICS Secretary and 2 years as a board member. She is seeking another term as board member. Married to Bob for 45 years, she has 2 adult children and 4 grandchildren. Rosemary has been an active member for 8 years.

## **Ann Marie Petrone**

Ann Marie Petrone is a native Lancastrian and a second generation Italian-American. Her mother and grandparents were born in Pentidattilo, Reggio Calabria. Pride in their Italian heritage was foremost to them, followed by the importance of a good education, strong work ethic and family loyalty. Ann Marie is a graduate of Millersville University and School District of Lancaster teacher for 28 years. With her aunt and uncle, she was co-owner of the family business, Italian Villa Ristorante. Ann Marie's desire is to honor and continue her family's heritage as an active member of the Lancaster Italian Cultural Society.

A charter member of LICS and on the board of directors from 1999-2007, Ann Marie has also been on the Newsletter Committee and the Hospitality Chairperson for the past 15 years. The Christmas Party, "Decimo Anniversario" (10<sup>th</sup>) and upcoming "Quindicesimo" (15<sup>th</sup>) are some of the LICS social events held during these years. As a retired educator, she is looking forward to serving on the board and promoting educational and cultural programs.

## **LeAnn Rynier**

LeAnn Rynier is a registered nurse with a master's degree in counseling from Millersville University. She recently retired as a Psychiatric Clinical Nurse Specialist from the Wernersville State Hospital in Berks County. She received several recognitions including the Florence Nightingale Award for excellence in mental health nursing from Philhaven Hospital. LeAnn, a Society member for the past 12 years, has two daughters and four grandchildren.

## **John Villella**

John Villella is seeking a third term on the LICS Board of Directors. He served his first as a Board Member and his second term as Vice-President. John has been Co-chairman of the annual picnic event for the past two years. He is responsible for implementing and administering the LICS Internet e-Blasts which has been an important communication medium to members via their personal e-mail accounts. John's parents were from the Calabria region of Italy. He is a Pittsburgh native and has been a resident of Lancaster since 1972. His two sons also live in Lancaster.

**Respectfully Submitted by the Nominating Committee:**

**Makila Carello, Chairperson**

**Stephanie DiCola**

**Helen Ebersole**

**Rosemary La Fata**