

Election Meeting Results LICS Men's Luncheon Debuts! Page 5.

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Lancaster Italian Cultural Society
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LANCASTER
ITALIAN
CULTURAL
SOCIETY

LICS Bollettino Periodico

L'Osservatore Lancastriano



Livia Riley presented the slate of officers and returning and new members of the LICS Board of Directors.

Above (left to right) - Livia Riley (President), Fiorella Spidalieri, Angela Lonzetta (Secretary), Anthony Boffa, Valerie Boffa, Judy Krenzel, Patsy Belforti, John Day (Treasurer), George Belforti, Lyza Valenzo, Nella Seward (Immediate Past President), Dee Viscardi (Vice President); and Tony Fisichella and Kathy Fisichella (Not pictured).



Above: Dee Viscardi presenting the Italian-American Service Award for 2023 to Pattie Meyer.

Congratulations Pattie!

(Continued from previous column.)

“A teacher for St. Anthony and Resurrection school for 25 years and director of Religious Education. Pattie has worked with the Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg for several years and the Education Initiative for Lancaster County. Pattie assists those in need of a ride to a physician’s appointment, she has started and is head of Helping Hands, (a Bereavement program). Volunteers for a nursing home’s (Brown Bag Program). Volunteered her time for a church bazaar for many years. Pattie has reached thousands of students over 44 years and is reliable and kind to all and is an active Bocce player. Always caring, always sharing and always there.”

Pattie Meyer - LICS 2023 Italian-American Service Award Recipient!

Dee announced Pattie Meyer as the winner of the 2023 Italian-American Service Award. She then shared the following tribute.

“Pattie has done much for the Lancaster Italian Cultural Society. Volunteers for all events the club presents from beginning to end. A dedicated board member. Organized and chaired several Spaghetti Dinners, two of which were for LICS., that brought over \$3,000 dollars through fundraising. She encourages whomever she meets to become a member of the club in which she did recruit. She has been instrumental both in Italian and Catholic education and parish community.”

(Continued in the next column.)

LICS Election Meeting & Luncheon

by *Angela Lonzetta*

The Lancaster Italian Cultural Society (LICS) recently held its Annual Member Meeting on Sunday, March 3, 2024, at The Knights of Columbus in Lancaster. This eagerly awaited event brought together new and old members of LICS to celebrate their shared heritage, honor outstanding service, and plan for the future.

The day commenced with a warm social gathering and lunch at 12:00 p.m. The menu featured an array of Italian foods including baked ziti, sausage and peppers, garlic bread, meatballs, and a selection of delectable desserts such as cakes, pies, and pizzelle. As members savored these culinary delights, conversations flowed freely, with many sharing fond memories of growing up in Italian families and reminiscing about their grandparents' favorite recipes.



Following the lunch, outgoing President, Nella Seward, led the assembly in a welcome address and prayer, setting the tone for the official proceedings. At 1:30 p.m., the meeting transitioned into a more formal agenda with the presentation of the prestigious 2023 Italian-American Service Award. This award, a symbol of recognition for exceptional contributions to the society, was bestowed upon Pattie Meyer by the Italian-American Service Award Chairperson, Dee Viscardi.

Pattie Meyer's dedication and service to LICS were highlighted during the presentation. Her tireless efforts in volunteering for various events, fundraising endeavors, and community outreach initiatives were lauded. Pattie's extensive involvement in Italian and Catholic education, coupled with her compassion and commitment to serving others, earned her the admiration and respect of her peers.

Following the applause for Pattie's well-deserved

accolade, Nella provided an update on the society's financial status. Notable achievements included a significant increase in membership, with 34 new members added in the current fiscal year, bringing the total membership count to 183. Additionally, operating profits saw a substantial rise, reflecting the society's growing stability and support base.



Nella also took the opportunity to recap the diverse range of events sponsored by LICS in 2022 and 2023, ranging from annual picnics and spaghetti dinners to cultural trips and educational engagements. The society's active participation in community festivals and its frequent features in local newsletters underscored its integral role in promoting Italian culture and heritage within the Lancaster community.



A highlight of the meeting was the Education Initiative presentation by Steve Iovino, Chair of the Education Initiatives Committee. Steve shared details of grants awarded to local schools, aimed at enriching students' educational experiences in art, music, and STEM subjects. These initiatives not only fostered a deeper appreciation for Italian culture but also provided valuable resources to support students' academic growth and development.

As the meeting drew to a close, incoming Board President Livia Riley introduced the slate of officers and board members for the upcoming term, including President: Livia Riley; Vice President: Dee Viscardi;

Secretary: Angela Lonzetta; Treasurer: John Day; Tony Fisichella; Kathy Fisichella; Fiorella Spidaliere; Anthony Boffa; Valerie Boffa; Lyza Valenzo; George Belforti; Patsy Belforti; Judy Krenzel and Past President at Large: Nella Seward (1 year term). With unanimous approval from the members, the new board was officially welcomed, marking the beginning of a new chapter for LICS.



The Lancaster Italian Cultural Society's Annual Member Meeting was a resounding success, characterized by camaraderie, celebration, and a reaffirmation of commitment to preserving and promoting Italian heritage. As LICS looks towards the future, its members stand united in their dedication to fostering a vibrant Italian-American community in Lancaster and beyond.



LICS Education Initiative Program

by *Stephen Iovino*, Chairperson of the Education Initiative Committee with the following members: Ann DeLaurentis, Livia Riley, Debra Saporetti, and Mary Cae Williams.

Over the past six years, the Lancaster Italian Cultural Society has supported the education of thousands of students in Lancaster County through its Education Initiative Program. This program has provided over \$15,000 in grants to educational organizations to assist them in the purchase of instructional materials to enhance student learning and to recognize the artistic talent of students through awards named after famous Italian artists. Grant awards were provided to organizations in need of assistance based on their limited economic resources. Education Initiative funding has been used to support the purchase of instruction materials in the areas of art, music, STEM education, math, problem solving, performing arts, and writing for both the regular student population and students with special educational needs.

For this year, the Lancaster Italian Society under its Education initiative Program has awarded grants in the total amount of \$2,400 to the following five local educational organizations:

School District of Lancaster (\$500 Grant)

The Lancaster Cultural Society adopted two classrooms in the DASH emotional support program operated in the School District of Lancaster to support the purchase of instructional materials for art and music. This funding will enhance the art and music instruction for forty-five emotional support students in grades 1-12.

Our Lady of Angels School (\$600 Grant)

To enrich the fine arts and performing arts program at Our Lady of Angels School, one hundred twenty-five students in pre-school through grade 8 attended the Fulton Opera House production of "Peter Pan." Funding was used to provide bus transportation to this cultural event, which for many of the students was their first attendance to a live theater production.



Dear Italian Cultural Society,
Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the opportunity for our school to go to the Fulton Opera House to see Peter Pan this past Thursday. We LOVED it!
Most of our students had never been to the Fulton before, so it was a first-time cultural experience!
They loved the squishy, red seats and how Peter Pan and Wendy flew through the air! The building was beautiful to look at, and they felt "fancy" being there. Thank you for giving them the ability to have a field trip on school buses! It was fun to finally go somewhere after many years of being at school.
Sincerely,
Our Lady of the
Angels School

Columbia Borough School District (\$700 Grant)

Grant funds were used to assist the district in the purchase Simple Machines Kits for one hundred students in their grade 7 STEM program. These kits

will provide a hands-on learning experience related to Leonardo da Vinci's simple machines.

Resurrection Catholic School (\$500 Grant)

Materials will be purchased for thirty-three students in grades 6 – 8 to use to create special clay projects using an Italian technique called Sgraffito, which derives from an Italian word meaning "to scratch.". Sgraffito is a technique where potters can put a layer of glaze or slip on a piece of pottery, let it dry, then use a pottery carving tool to scratch at it to show the base layer of color. Italy is known for its terra cotta pieces.

Lancaster Museum of Art (\$100 Grant)

Funding to provide four Italian artist-themed awards for student work accepted into the Lancaster County Young Artists Competition that exemplifies one of the four named artists for these awards: Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Artemisia Gentileschi, and Amedeo Modigliani. This year works accepted into the competition, including the LICS awards recipients, will be exhibited at the Lancaster Museum of Arts and the Pennsylvania College of Art & Design, in March of 2024.



Artemisia Gentileschi Award

Introspection- Lucy van Harskamp, Manheim Township High School, Grade 12, Matthew Jones (teacher)



Michelangelo Award

First Real- Dang Phuc Loi Nguyen, Hempfield High School, Grade 12, Erica Kabbeko (teacher)



Amedeo Modigliani Award

Reincarnation- Anastasiia Yakovets, Garden Spot High School, Grade 12, Adam Bunting (teacher)

Leonardo Da Vinci Award →

Fresh Mandarin Oranges and Apple- Ava Kurtz, Solanco High School, Grade 12, Candace Rakers (teacher)





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LICS Men's Luncheon Debuts!

The first luncheon is Thursday, April 18, 2024, at Noon. Future luncheons will be on the 3rd Thursday of each month. April's Lunch will be at the Night & Day Diner, located in The Shoppes at Bloomfield Village, 3140 Lititz Pike, Lititz, PA 17543, (717) 490-6198.



Google Reviews for Night & Day Diner:
 "Great food great service by my waitress Devin and great place to eat"
 "Does vet & senior discounts and homemade cooking including some Greek entrees." **Many Italian entrees are on the menu!**
 Please call Tony Fisichella at (717) 701-3207 by April 11, to register.
Guys, this is a great way to connect with LICS members, converse and mangiare bene!

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Itinerary and Reservation**



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Destination: Villa Roma Resort located in the Catskill Mountains (Callicoon, N.Y.)

Depart Time: 9:00 AM October 29, 2024, from Lancaster Shopping Center, Lititz Pike.

Parking next to former A.C. Moore (Oregon Pike side).

Approximate Return Time: 4:00 PM, November 1, 2024

You may bring one carry on and one luggage (luggage tags will be sent to you).

Enjoy the fun, food and relaxation Villa Roma Resort has to offer. Bingo! Horse Racing, Bocce, Shuffleboard Tournaments, Dance Lessons, Karaoke, Talent Show, Game Night, Italian Cooking Class and much more.

Room keys will be given upon arrival, along with a schedule of activities for your stay.

Suggested Items to bring with you would be, evening attire for Thursday Nights Gala “Caesar’s Dinner Extravaganza “, bathing suit for indoor pool, cash on hand and your I.D.

Casual attire throughout the day and don’t forget any medications you may be taking.

Masks are not required.

Surround yourself with all things Italian!

*Delicious Meals Starting with dinner on arrival through Breakfast on departure

*Ceasar’s Luncheon Extravaganza – Tribute to Italian Singers

*San Gennaro Feast Buffet Lunch on Wednesday

*Caesar’s Night Extravaganza Thursday

*Exciting Italian American Shows & Italian Themed Activities

Planning on going to Resorts Catskills Casino on Wednesday only, the cost for Shuttle round trip is \$20. The casino will give you \$20 in free play if you show your I. D. Leaving Casino 1 PM and returning to Resort 5 PM. It’s a 35-minute ride.

Half down payment per person is required when sending in your reservations (non-refundable).

Full amount must be in before April 30, 2024. Questions call 717-951-7112.

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