



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GRAND IN SACRAMENTO – MARCH 2018

When a meeting takes a full day with lots of discussion, there is no “*short and to the point*”, but will give it my best shot.

President John Costa:

- + We have so many avenues to communicate but are not using them. Please ‘each one try to reach one’ and talk up Order Sons and Daughters of Italy.
- + As of this meeting, membership has dropped below the 4,000 mark. There are three lodges within the OSIA family that currently need our support. Las Vegas, Lake County and San Diego. They want to stay open but are below 25 members. If anyone has GREAT ideas for getting new members, please share with those in need. Their doors are still open at this time but will not have representation at convention in June.
- + National is working on simplifying the Ritual and Protocol standards and are asking for input. If you have any suggestions, please pass them onto our Chair Donna Lee Lawrence Costa.

1st Vice Arlene Nunziati:

- + Remind lodges when using our logo to use the one with the “R” on it. Everyone has the option of using Order Sons of Italy in America OR Orders Sons and Daughters of Italy in America.
- + Feeling among the VP’s that in many instances, protocol is not being followed and that there is a lack of respect and courtesy.

2nd Vice Sadie Tamburine:

- + Gala will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in Santa Ana on Saturday, Sept. 22, 2018. Humanitarian Award will go to National Recording Secretary Phil Privitera. Royal Court of the Golden Lion Award will be presented to Vince Ferregamo and waiting on the third as of this date. One of the biggest hurdles is to solicit ads for the program book and sell tickets. Please ask your lodge members to buy at least one of those, if not both.

3rd Vice Barbara Wisniewski:

- + In need of one deputy for the Gold Country Lodge in El Dorado Hills.

- ✚ Recommends to all officers that they offer their services for at least one day at the Grand Lodge to gain a better understanding of what it takes to run our beloved order.

Immediate Past State President:

- ✚ Speaking on a National level: there is an OSIA store at WWW.cafepress.com with many fun and interesting items for sale.
- ✚ Sadie Tamburine and Pauline Richmond will be reaching out to the lodges to purchase a \$20 calendar for a Fund Raiser during the month of October. Check with them for more details.
- ✚ New Website is up and running for national.... check it out: osia.org

State Recording Secretary Lori Rossi:

- ✚ The Delegate Packages will be finalized at the end of April and will be mailed out to the Lodge Financial Secretaries. The credentials will be mailed out at the beginning of June, also to the Lodge Financial Secretaries.

State Treasurer Al Trentini:

- ✚ Prior to approval, Al reconciles the checks to the Check Request and vendor's invoice, also, ensuring that the amounts, names, and address are correct as well as the budget codes. In addition, all expenditures are applied to the year's budgets amount to determine the current over/under status for that account.

Western Foundation CAO Roy Vanoni:

- ✚ In need of a Trustee from either the South or Central Districts.
- ✚ The net profit of the golf tournament in Oct. 2017, was \$10,302.49.
- ✚ Humanitarian and Leadership Gala will be held Sept. 22, 2018.

Italian Language and Culture/History Committee-Maria Pignati

- ✚ It is important that we educate people as to the vast contributions of Italians to many different disciplines.
- ✚ 2018 has been declared the year of Italian food in the world.
- ✚ At the upcoming convention in June, in addition to lodges bringing memorabilia to display, Maria is requesting lodge cookbooks to help highlight the Year of Italian Food.

Scholarship Committee-Rosemarie Vanderhaar

- ✚ Scholarship Committee will be meeting on March 24th.
- ✚ Last October, 450 high schools were mailed information packets with applications
- ✚ Rosemarie requested that copies of unofficial transcripts replace the costly official transcripts for validating attendance at said institution. After much discussion from those attending the Grand Council Meeting in the audience, the vote was to leave the official transcript policy as is.

Medical Charities - Michael Carroll

- ✚ Lodge Presidents please empty the contents of your Cooley's cans and the money to be made into a check to the Western Foundation, earmarked for Cooley's Anemia in the memo line on the check.

Birth Defects Libraries – HazelAnn Christin

- ✚ Distributions will be made to Stanford Hospital, Loma Linda Hospital and Children's Hospital at UC Davis.

Garibaldi-Meucci Museum – Joy Bruno

- ✚ The Museum is continuing to keep our culture and heritage alive and striving to keep it strong. The “Brick Project” is still in progress.

Membership – Gary Smith

- ✚ At the end of December 2017, there were 4,007 members.
- ✚ Future Ideas to think about:
 - a) When doing events to raise funds for other non-profit groups, ask them to place our lodge logo and website on their website.
 - b) Ask non-profit organizations that will be benefiting from your event to help by volunteering, so you help each other to make each stronger overall.
 - c) Invite new members to attend the Grand Lodge Convention with special reserved seating for them to experience “the big picture”, to spark their interest and get more involved.

Judiciary Committee – Al Girolami

- ✚ Bylaw Proposal from Hanford Lodge #1543 to give voting right to Grand Lodge Committee Chairpersons can properly be place before the Delegates at Convention. As with all Bylaw changes, this would require a 2/3 majority vote by membership to pass.
- ✚ Second Bylaw Proposal from Hanford Lodge #1543 to eliminate the reimbursement of travel expenses and periderm to Past State President while attending the Grand Convention did not get approval from the Grand Council nor from **ALL Past State Presidents in the audience.**

Ritual & Protocol – Donna Lee Lawrence Costa

- ✚ Several lodges have been observed not following correct protocol when introducing the State Officers and requesting all to be mindful of this.
- ✚ Soon the revising of Ritual & Protocol will be starting and input from the filial lodges is always welcome.

Grand Lodge Building Committee – John Bianco

- ✚ Met for the first time on Nov. 19th. Felt they need a tax attorney and/or obtain an opinion letter from the IRS to determine the liability. It was voted on and passed to give the committee \$7,000.00 to get this done.
- ✚ They also requested to hire an ADA Professional to render an opinion of its ADA compliance. It was voted on and passed to give the committee \$3,000.00 to get this done as well.

Media Committee – Andy Pampuro

- ✚ January had a 20-page newspaper. February was only 12 pages, lowest amount ever printed. Hoping this improves. Please send in articles.

Queen Committee – Eva Lavezzari

- ✚ From this point forward, there will no longer be a “Queen Contest”. It will now be called the “Royal Court Contest and Pageant”.
- ✚ There are seven young ladies and two young men running at this time.

Report on Hall Rental – 5051 Mission – Barbara Muselli

- ✚ 2017 saw \$40,000.00 collected by the Grand Lodge for 22 events. All expenses for maintaining the building are now being covered by rents and there is a surplus.
- ✚ 2018 has already held eight events. More COULD be booked, but it needs to be noted that improvements are needed in the ballroom to increase lighting.
- ✚ Maintenance work needs to be done on the drain to the street out of one corner of the building to prevent any more flooding of the ballroom floor

Grand Lodge Office Update – Arlene Nunziati

- ✚ Gina has decided to leave, and a replacement will be starting in a few days.
- ✚ Membership program is still not ready but should be up and running by May.
- ✚ Mark Vaona donated 8 “WORKING” security cameras for the Grand Lodge.
- ✚ During a ‘cleanup’ of the building, many old artifacts, photos of Past State Presidents and members, many miscellaneous photos of the younger days was discovered. They will be brought to convention and distributed. Gabrielle is also trying to sell old silverware, glasses and miscellaneous items which were located. Another complete set of the Tournament of Roses Float photos was found, and they will be put on the wall in the upstairs hall.

Webmaster – Anna Graeber

- ✚ Home Page name has been changed to reflect Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America name change.
- ✚ 2014 National Membership Manual has been added to the members only section.
- ✚ 2015 OSIA National Bylaws has also been added to the members only section.
- ✚ 2015 Bylaws for the Grand Lodge of California has been added to the members only section.
- ✚ Working on having more forms added to the members prior to June convention.

Trustee Report – Pauline Richmond

- ✚ I did not hold them up like last time, so the audit of the books was done in a timely manner and everything balanced. ☺

Report of the 2018 Convention – Lynn Lawrence-Murphy

- ✚ Date set for June 28 – 30, 2018. Location is the Double Tree by the Hilton Ontario Airport, 222 N. Vineyard Avenue, Ontario, CA 91764
- ✚ Room rate is \$110.00 ++. Delegate Package is \$240.00
- ✚ Delegate packages will be mailed in the later part of April to the Financial Secretaries.
- ✚ Bocce Tournament will be held on Wednesday, June 27th.
- ✚ Thursday, June 28th will be the First Ladies Luncheon, honoring our First Lady, Donna Lee Costa. That evening is Theme Night, which will be ‘The Great Gatsby-Roaring 20’s. Entertainment will be from the Sparks Sisters who are members of the Beatrice Portinari Lodge #1626.
- ✚ Friday, June 29th, The Royal Court of the Golden Lion Luncheon will take place. That evening, the new Grand Lodge King or Queen will be crowned.
- ✚ Saturday evening is the Black and White Ball, where we honor our scholarship recipients.

Grand Lodge Queen – Mary Lucido

- ✚ Has diligently been fulfilling her duties as your Grand Lodge Queen and attending as many Sons of Italy and Italian functions as possible.

State Youth Committee – Brian Watson

- ✚ Has always had a free program at convention for the kids but it cannot be done without donations. Please talk with local lodges about sponsoring the Little Lion Program.

Fraternally,

Louise Silacci

Louise Silacci, State Trustee - Central

