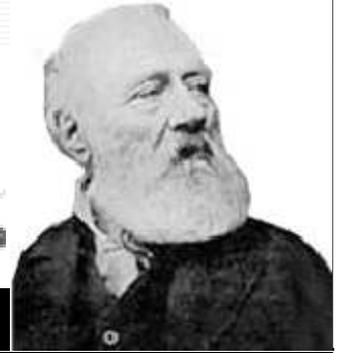


July/August 2012

AVANTI

Antonio Meucci Lodge #213, OSIA • White Plains, NY



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Upcoming Events:

July 8

Kensico Dam Festival

July 11

Officers' Meeting

July 24

General Meeting

August 8

Officers' Meeting

August 28

General Meeting

September 2

Lodge Picnic

September 12

Officers' Meeting

September 25

General Meeting

September 29-30

Columbus Day Festival

SIS. MARY RIGUZZI NAMED 2012 WOMAN OF THE YEAR



In a unanimous decision by the Lodge's Annual Person of the Year Committee, Sis. Mary Riguzzi has been named our current award recipient and

will be honored as our "2012 Woman of the Year" this October 28 at the Lodge's Columbus Day Dinner Dance gala event. The festive dinner will take place at the Villa Barone Hilltop Manor in Mahopac.

According to President Teresa Riverso, Sis. Mary was chosen as the hands-down winner for her many years of service but especially for her tremendous efforts in chairing the annual Italian Heritage Festival at the Kensico Dam. It's a labor she has undertaken almost singlehandedly for the past 12 years. "Sis. Mary is incredibly hard-working and dedicated," says the president. "While we all pitch in the day before and the day of the event and that's great, Sis. Mary basically coordinates all the vendors by herself. It's nothing short of amazing how she does this," president Teresa remarked.

More of a task-oriented person who shies away from the limelight, Sis. Mary was speechless when told she had been selected as the WOTY. Upon finding her voice, she stated that she appreciates the recognition and feels humbled. "I am proud to be among those who came



Congratulations to Bro. Mario Cermele!
Bro. Mario was named a new State Commissioner of Arbitration at the Grand Lodge Convention. Best wishes and much continued success—we know you'll work very hard for us!



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The *Avanti* is the official newsletter of the Antonio Meucci Lodge #213. Published bi-monthly, the *Avanti* accepts news releases, reviews, commentaries and other information significant to the Italian-American community. Please contact Editor Maria Rivero at (914) 997-7388.



A Message From Your PRESIDENT

Teresa Rivero

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Summer is usually a carefree and happy time, but this year we have just experienced two terrible losses in our Lodge that have left me and I'm sure most of us with huge holes in our hearts. It is with deepest regret and amidst many tears that I write about the passing of two of our much loved members, **Sis. Carmen Scaglione and Bro. Frank Tassone**. Both Sis. Camen and Bro. Frank were truly our friends and were incredibly faithful to our Lodge even throughout the long illnesses that eventually claimed their lives. They will be very sorely missed as they were so good-hearted and friendly to everyone. I just want to share a few personal stories of both these wonderful people in tribute to them and the memories they left with me.

I met Sis. Camen, who eventually became our Lodge Chaplain, several years ago. I thought she was just so sweet and pretty with that angelic face and beautiful blue eyes. Of course I told her that right then and there (and then many times thereafter). She was always so humble and would tell me that I was crazy for thinking that. I really got to know her when we had the Flea Market several years ago. I learned that she enjoyed baking so I asked to her "make a few things" we could sell at a booth. And boy, did she ever! She made everything under the sun—cookies, mini cheesecakes, crumb cakes, cupcakes, brownies—you name it, it was there and every thing was absolutely delicious. We had a great time that day and sold a lot of goods. At the end of the day, however, we were still left with quite a bit—mostly on account of how much she had originally baked. Camen then bought

everything that was left so that the Lodge wouldn't lose out. I learned then that she was generous to a fault, and she proved this many times thereafter. Although she was quite sick these past few years, she tried very hard to attend our events. I'm so glad that she was able to come to our May Pasta and Tombola Night. I will always remember her generosity and dedication, and sadly, any bake sales I do now will never be the same.

Bro. Frank Tassone was "mi corazón," my sweetheart. This is what I called him. Soon after I met him many years ago, I learned that he spoke Spanish. I always wanted to as well but never managed to learn but a few phrases that I practiced on him. We had such fun with this—especially when I inadvertently said I wanted to marry him! I would call him *Don Francisco* and he enjoyed that. He never refused to come to Atlantic City with us and loved having fun on the bus ride. He was a trained carpenter and was always ready to help; he was always fixing things and was always using his truck to help transport whatever we needed wherever we needed it. The Lodge truly came to be his second home and his fellow Lodge brothers and sisters were his family. I will always remember his sense of humor and how he would make me smile.

My heartfelt condolences to the families of Sis. Camen and Bro. Frank. We will always remember them and how they touched our lives in the most positive, wonderful ways.

Faternally yours and Sempre Avanti,

Teresa Rivero
Teresa Rivero



IN MEMORIAM

"Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal."



Sis. Carmen Scaglione
1944-2012



Bro. Frank Tassone
1937-2012

EVENTS CALENDAR

ON, ABOUT AND AROUND THE LODGE

PLEASE NOTE

- All events are held at the Lodge unless otherwise indicated.
- Members are NOT required to RSVP for general meetings. A contact number is provided in case you have questions about the meeting itself.

OFFICERS' MEETINGS are on
WEDNESDAYS at 8:00 pm sharp.
(The 2nd Wednesday of every month.)

July 11 ▪ August 8 ▪ September 12

GENERAL MEETINGS are on
TUESDAYS at 8:00 pm sharp.
(The 4th Tuesday of every month.)

July 24 ▪ August 28 ▪ September 25

Contact: Sis. Rita Cestone, (914) 948-3608.



**OPEN BOCCE AT
THE LODGE**
Every Wednesday
from 7:00 pm to dusk!

For all you bocce fans who couldn't get enough of this year's tournament—or who want to improve upon your skills for the next one—join us every Wednesday for our open court time. Games are open to all Lodge Members of all abilities (adults only). Just come at any time after 7:00 pm and we'll make up teams on a first-come, first-served basis. Lots of fun, friendly competition and most of all, flexibility!

Contact: Chairperson Bro. Domenico Rivero at (914) 997-7388 *for questions only*. No reservations or team assignments taken please; just show up.

Have an idea for an event or want to chair an event? Let Pres. Teresa know! Call her at (914) 997-7388 or email her at trivero@yahoo.com. All ideas are welcome!

Sunday, July 8 12:00 pm
Italian Heritage Festival

Annual celebration at the Kensico Dam as part of the Westchester County Heritage Series. Live Italian and pop music on the Showmobile, food & craft vendors, children's rides & games and more.

Contact: Chairperson Sis. Mary Riguzzi at (914) 761-5358 and/or Food Chairperson Bro. Mario Cemele, (914) 325-1239.

MEUCCI VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to work the day of the festival in the booths and on the grounds and two days prior to prepare the sausage and peppers that we will be selling. Please contact Sis. Mary Riguzzi to let her know if you can help.

Sunday, September 2 12:00 pm
Annual Lodge Picnic

Join us at Ridge Road Park in Hartsdale for lots of traditional grilled picnic foods with a variety of sides. We'll have hamburgers, hot dogs, steak, corn on the cob, watermelon and much, much more. There will be organized games and activities for the kids too. We're asking for donations of wine/beer for the raffle and also for baked goods for dessert. The park is open at 8:00 am to dusk; we'll be there from 12:00 pm-9:00 pm. \$25 pp. all-inclusive. Children under 10 eat free; children 11-17 eat for \$15.

Contact: Chairperson Charlie Tota at (914) 924-0347 or Co-Chair Mario Cemele at (914) 325-1239.

SAVE THE DATES!

**Sept. 29-30 — Columbus Day Festival
At WPHS**

Oct. 2 — Proclamation Ceremony
(for Italian Heritage & Culture Month)

**Oct. 7 — Columbus Wreath Laying
Ceremony and Breakfast**

Oct. 20 — Adult Halloween Party

Oct. 28 — Columbus Dinner Dance

SNAPSHOTS

A LOOK AT LODGE LIFE AND EVENTS IN PHOTOS



SPRING SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS CEREMONY - MAY 22, 2012

Six area high school seniors were awarded \$500 each in the Lodge's Annual Spring Scholarship Competition according to Scholarship Committee Chairperson Sandy Farduchi. The Chairperson strongly believes that the Lodge should continue to give scholarships to students who not only excel academically but who master the Italian language and are active participants in the community. "These young men and women of Italian descent are our future," she says. *Clockwise from the upper left*— Scholarship Committee Member **Sis. Annamaria Forte**, Scholarship recipients **CAYLA M. PETTINATO** (from Harrison HS, will be attending Stanford University, pursuing medical studies), **DANIELA MANGANO** (from White Plains HS, she is the daughter of **Bro. Michael** and **Sis. Hortensia Mangano**. She will be attending Bryant University and plans on majoring in International Business and Italian), **EMILY SINGER** (from Westlake HS; will be attending Boston University and plans on studying Child Development/Psychology), and **CHARLES FRAIOLI** (from Rye Neck HS; will be attending Cornell University and plans on majoring in International Relations), **Pres. Teresa Rivero**, **Bro. Carlo Cermele**, Scholarship recipients **LINDA CARTOLANO** (from Eastchester HS; will be attending Barnard College and plans on studying neuropsychology. She received the *Michael and Salvatore Cermele Bros. Scholarship*) and **REBECCA SACCOMANNO** (from Maria Regina HS; will be attending Hunter College and plans on studying theater/music. She received a scholarship from The White Plains Columbus Day Parade Committee Inc. and its president, **Bro. Frank Tarone**, pictured second to last on the right.). Rounding out the group are Scholarship Committee Members **Sis. Rita Carolini**, Chairperson **Sandy Farduchi**, **Jeanne Borrelli-Iardi** and **Sis. Camille Tarone**.



2012 KIDS' BOCCETOURNAMENT

According to Co-Chair Santina Tassone, 44 children played in this 2nd annual event and "it was so wonderful to see the children, the parents and grandparents find a focal point in our Lodge on these warm summer nights. With all the cheering and excitement it all felt like it was part of a large family reunion!" There were also had some fun family food nights where the group had BBQs and pot luck dinners and all family members sat together to eat and enjoy. Many thanks to our Co-Chairs Vito and Santina Tassone and Joe Amato for all their hard work and making this a great family Lodge event.

For the latest calendar information and photos of events, check out the calendar section of our website at www.antonioeuccilodge.com/calendar.htm.



2012 SUMMER ADULT BOCCE TOURNAMENT

The North Team #3, made up of **Bros. Andy Labela, Carlo Chiulli, Vito Cirioni (Captain)** and **Ugo Paolucci**, took the top honors in this year's series, which took place over several weeks in May/June. Following closely in second place was the South Team #6, made up of **Cermele Lodge Members Bros. Matteo, Mario (Captain), Joe and Carlo**. All in all, it was a fun tournament and unlike last year, the weather held for most nights, allowing play as scheduled. The final championship game and celebratory dinner took place at the Lodge on June 6, where **Bro. Umberto Amato and Sis. Annamaria Forte** (at left) cooked for all the teams and their families (thanks so much!). Many thanks to **Bro. Joe Amato** (also at left) for chairing the event and also to all who participated.

Bocce Photos by Sis. Mary Morra

THANK YOU TO Bros. Tony Capicotto and Domenico Rivero for handling the repair of the kitchen exhaust system. It will be great

to be more comfortable when we cook at the Lodge now.

IT'S A BOY! Congratulations to Sis. Cathy and Bro. Michael Grisanti on the recent arrival of their first grandson, Lorenzo Joseph. Baby Lorenzo is the son of Mark Grisanti and his wife Monica. We couldn't be happier for you all!

IN THE NEWS

What's Going On With Our Members

Bro. Michael Fiorentino, owner of Broadway Pizza in both White Plains and in Armonk. Much continued success and thank you for your many contributions of

your delicious pizza throughout the years.

OUR CONDOLENCES TO Bro. Joseph Vultaggio on the passing of his mother, Mary Vultaggio. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

HAVE ANY NEWS TO SHARE?

Contact Maria Rivero at (914) 287-0282.

GET WELL WISHES to Sis. Mary Borrelli, who recently underwent knee surgery. We hope you are recovering nicely.

CONGRATULATIONS TO Bro. Ray and Sis. Mary Ricci, whose granddaughter Julie Ann graduated cum laude from the University of Hartford this May. Julie Ann was our Miss

Columbus in 2008. Additional congratulations to the Riccis as their granddaughter Diana was married on April 27. Diana works for the College of Westchester and was recently appointed Assistant Dean of Academics and Director of the Counseling Center.

WOW! 40 YEARS OF SUCCESS! Congratulations to



Sis. Mary Riguzzi Named Woman of the Year

(Continued from page 1)

before me as I have a great respect for their dedication and service to our fraternal order," she said.

Donning her trademark visor and clipboard, Sis. Mary certainly does become the face of the Lodge every July at the annual festival, which in recent years has attracted 8-10 thousand people and has become the Lodge's most successful fundraising event. How did this come about? Sis. Mary detailed for us how she came to chair the Festival:

"First, I had co-chaired the Italian Heritage Festival for the Columbia Police Association with my husband Richard. When

they were in a position that they would not be able to continue to sponsor it, The [Westchester County] Parks Department, who expressed that they liked working with me, contacted me for recommendations as to what Italian organization I thought would be interested in sponsoring it. I suggested the AML because for many years they had sponsored the festival going back many years ago. I approached then-President Antonio Capicotto because I thought it would be a great way for fundraising. He was happy to accept and I agreed to chair the event," she recounted.

The rest, as they say, is history.

A Lodge Member since 1998, Sis. Mary enjoys being affiliated with us mostly because of the people. "The leadership and our Members are so caring and they strive to set a good example by working together for our common goal and that is to celebrate our Italian culture and to keep it alive here in America," she says.

Also, since she was born in Italy, she says that "it comes quite easy to want to flaunt my ancestry." Right on, Sis. Mary! We look forward to celebrating the rest of 2012 with our new "Woman of the Year," and to having a great party in October when we honor you for all you have done for us.

CENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN—BLAST FROM THE



We'll be celebrating our Centennial in 2014 and thought it would be fun to start a new section in the *Avanti* to present great reminders of our past. This photo was taken at our 50th Anniversary Celebration, where they probably wished the Lodge well for another 50 years—and will get it and more, for sure. If you recognize anyone, let us know!

Judge Daniel Angiolillo Honored by the Columbian Lawyers Association of Westchester County



Bro. Dan Angiolillo was honored at the legal organization's 29th Annual Dinner Dance

at the Fountainhead in New Rochelle on June 15 where he received their Distinguished Service Award. The award, named after the late Judge Richard J. Daronco, a well-respected Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of NY, is presented to a person of Italian heritage who has made a significant contribution to the bench or bar and who has

been an outstanding example and an asset to the Italian-American community at large. Bro. Dan certainly fits the bill.

President Teresa Rivero and several Lodge members attended the lovely affair to proudly celebrate with their esteemed brother as he received his well-deserved award.

The Columbian Lawyers Association was founded in 1982 and is made up of lawyers of Italian descent. Since its inception, the group has assisted the Italian-American community in general and particularly, Italian-American law students with scholarships and internships.

WANTED: MEMORABILIA FOR CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

We are looking for artifacts and memorabilia to use during our Centennial Year, 2014. Examples include photos, old issues of the *Avanti*, old copies of the Columbus Day Dinner Dance Journal, event programs or tickets, newspaper articles about the Lodge or Lodge events, objects with our Lodge name, etc. All items will be returned unless you wish to donate them.

Please contact Sis. Maria Rivero at (914) 287-0282 or merivero@yahoo.com.

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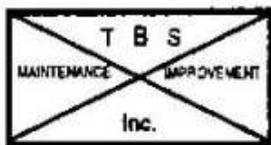
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