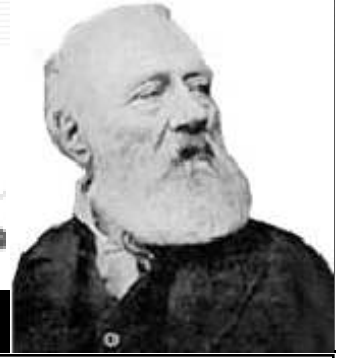


AVANTI

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



\$3,000 in Scholarships Awarded at Spring Ceremony



Pictured celebrating at the May 28 Ceremony are student award recipients and Lodge Scholarship Committee Members (beginning from the left) Brigida Capicotto, Sis. Jean Borrelli-Ilardi, Alexandra Tartaglia, Sis. Sandy Farduchi, Marc Lee, Pres. Teresa Rivero, Nicholas Capicotto, Christina Zaccardi, Jessica Tiburzi, Sis. Rita Carolini, Sis. Annmaria Forte and Sis. Camille Tarone.

Six of the best and brightest students of the Italian language in Westchester were recognized for their stellar academic efforts at the **Lodge's Annual Spring Scholarship Awards Ceremony** on Tuesday, May 28. The ceremony, which was part of the Lodge's General Meeting, saw the presentation of \$3,000 in awards monies to the deserving college-bound high school seniors, who happily received their honors before family and friends invited to the Lodge for this special occasion.

"They are all excellent Italian-Americans scholars. I am so proud of their accomplishments thus far, and it brings me so much joy to know how

much they cherish their Italian culture and traditions," remarked **Sis. Sandy Farduchi**, who chairs the Spring Scholarship Committee. The committee once again had its work cut out for them choosing among the highly qualified applicants. Sis. Sandy, along with her committee members **Sisters Rita Carolini, Annamaria Forte, Jean Borrelli-Ilardi and Camille Tarone**, are to be commended for their hard work in selecting the award recipients and putting together the lovely ceremony.

"I am always happy to see such wonderful young people who care about their heritage," commented **Pres. Teresa Rivero**. "It's also especially

(Continued on page 6)

In This Issue:

- Spring Scholarships Cover
- President's Message. 2
- Events Calendar 3
- SnapShots. 4-5
- Members In the News. 6

Upcoming Events

- July 10**
Officers' Meeting
- July 23**
General Meeting
- August 4**
Padre Pio Bus Trip
- August 14**
Officers' Meeting
- August 27**
General Meeting
- September 1**
Lodge Picnic
- September 11**
Officers' Meeting
- September 24**
General Meeting
- October 7**
Columbus Wreath Ceremony
- October 9**
Officers' Meeting
- October 22**
General Meeting
- October 27**
Columbus Dinner Dance



Antonio Meucci Lodge #213

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The *Avanti* is the official newsletter of the Antonio Meucci Lodge #213 and is published bi-monthly in January, March, May, July, September and November. Please submit all items for publication by the next day after the General Meeting preceding the month of publication. Contact Editor Maria Rivero at (914) 997-7388.



A Message From Your PRESIDENT

Teresa Rivero

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The last two months have been very exciting at the Lodge. We've really stepped up our activities and are further developing our plans for the remaining year's events. We even held our first meeting about our upcoming Centennial year. I'm happy to say that we have some great ideas and solid commitments from several Brothers and Sisters on the special tasks they will be undertaking to help make 2014 a celebrated year. I really appreciate everyone who is stepping up to make our Lodge the wonderful organization that it is right now and will be in the future.

And speaking of our future, we had an outstanding **Spring Scholarship Ceremony** at our May General Meeting. We recognized six high school seniors that are sure to do great things in the time to come. I've always loved this event because it really represents what our Lodge is about. I'm very proud to be president of an organization that rewards its young people for honoring their heritage by excelling in their studies, especially the study of the Italian language. Every one of the students was delightful. It was a real pleasure meeting them and hearing about their achievements. The student who enchanted us with her lovely voice and sang an aria for the musical interlude of the ceremony, Alexandra Tartaglia, was especially impressive. All the students, their parents and grandparents are to be commended. I want to thank **Sis. Sandy Farduchi** and her committee for once again bringing us students that we can all be proud of and for helping our Lodge continue this very important program for our young people.

At the end of May, a group of ten of us from the Lodge including myself and my husband, Bro. Domenico, attended the **NYS Grand Lodge Convention** at the Villa Roma Resort and Conference Center. We had a very nice time at both the social and educational activities. It was interesting to learn about the workings of the Grand Lodge and how hard our state officers work for us. It was also exciting to see our new NYS president, Joseph Rondinelli, sworn in to his new position. Best of luck to our new president and we will all do our best to help him and our other state officers further the goals of the Order.

May also saw the start of our **Adult Co-Ed Bocce Tournament** in which I participated—and played rather horribly, I have to admit. My team lost all but one game and it seems as

though I spent most of the time “disagreeing” with Bro. Domenico, who was on my team, about game strategy and how to throw. But, it was all in good fun and sportsmanship prevailed. The series was chaired and wonderfully put together and handled by **Bro. Joe Amato** with help from co-chairs **Bros. Vito Cirioni and Lenny Mignini**. I want to thank them for all their hard work and time spent on this event.

Also on the Bocce front, **Sis. Santina and Bro. Vito Tassone** have begun our **Kids' Bocce Tournament**, and I want to thank them for taking this event on. Sis. Santina and Bro. Vito had the terrific idea of having a kick-off for the series in the form of a family party at the Lodge, and this took place on June 21. Everyone had a great time, and it was fun seeing the kids dancing and just being together. My granddaughter Marisa came and said “it was awesome, Nanny!” It's always heartwarming to see families together at the Lodge and I really appreciate new ideas such as this one to involve Members of all generations. Thank you, Sis. Santina and Bro. Vito, for bringing forth this idea. A special thanks also to **Bro. Mario Cermele**, for helping with the catering portion of the event.

Another “new” event that we did, courtesy of **Bro. Tony and Sis. Tina Amato**, was the **party cruise of June 15**. The Lodge may have done this before but it has been a while and it was nice to see this activity resurface. We had a sell-out crowd aboard the Klondike yacht out of New Rochelle and we ate, danced and partied as we sailed around Manhattan on the beautiful night. It was really fun and I know everyone enjoyed themselves. Thank you, Bro. Tony and Sis. Tina, for organizing this most pleasurable event for us.

We closed out June with our **Tag Sale at the Lodge** that took place over the last weekend. It wasn't as well-attended as we would have liked but my thanks go to **Sis. Paula Pesaturo** for chairing this event and also to **Sis. May Morra** for helping out and working hard that day.

As I first said, we have a number of events coming up so stay tuned and hope to see you all soon. Have a great summer and stay cool! Fraternaly yours and Sempre Avanti,

Teresa Rivero

EVENTS CALENDAR

ON, ABOUT AND AROUND THE LODGE

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

July 10 ▪ August 14 ▪ September 11

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

July 23 ▪ August 27 ▪ September 24
Contact: Sis. Rita Cestone, (914) 948-3608

Sunday, September 1
Annual Lodge Picnic

12:00 pm



We'll be saying good-bye to summer at Ridge Road Park in Hartsdale with traditional picnic foods done Meucci style, organized games and activities for the kids and a DJ for your listening pleasure. Donations of cheer for our raffle needed.

\$25 pp. for adults; \$15 for kids 11-17 and kids under 10 eat for free.

Contact: Bro. Charlie Tota, 924-0347.

Sunday, August 4
Padre Pio Shrine Bus Trip

7:30 am

Join us as we travel to the National Padre Pio Shrine in Barto, PA. Breakfast at Lodge then bus leaves at 7:30 am. Price includes bus trip, lunch and entrance to the shrine. \$50 pp. Please reserve.



Contact: Sis. Flavia DiNota, 769-8987.

Friday, August 16
Family Pasta & Tombola Night

6:00 pm



Dinner includes ziti and meatballs or linguine and clam sauce, garden salad, bread, cake and ice cream, and beverages. Little ones too young to play will enjoy arts and crafts with our kid-sitters. Door prizes too! \$20 pp. all-inclusive. Children under 5 eat free; children 6-12 eat for \$3.

Contact: Pres. Teresa Rivero, (914) 997-7388.

Sunday, August 25
Atlantic City Bus Trip

7:00 am

Try your luck at the RESORTS casino! The bus leaves the Lodge at 8:00 am but not before you are seated to a continental breakfast beginning at 7:00 am. Lunch and snacks are also provided and there will be entertainment (singing, tombola and a movie) for a big busload of fun. We'll return to the Lodge around 8:00 pm. \$40 pp, (casino will return \$25). RSVP please.

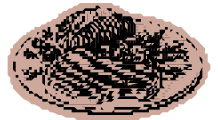


Contact: Pres. Teresa Rivero, (914) 997-7388.

Saturday, September 21
Steak Night

7:30 pm

Hosted by Bro. Umberto Amato and Sis. Annamaria Forte. Menu to be announced. \$25 pp.; kids are free.



Contact: Sis. Annamaria Forte, 769-9122.

Sat/Sun, September 28-29
Columbus Day Festival at WPHS

12:00 pm

Games, rides, food court, vendors, live entertainment and more on the beautiful campus of White Plains High School. Details to follow. Free admission and parking. Vendors and sponsors welcome.

Contact: Sis. Paula Pesaturo, 358-5663.

Sunday, October 6
Columbus Wreath-Laying Ceremony

10:00 am

Annual ceremony at the Columbus statue on North Broadway in White Plains. Special guest speaker: the honorable Judge Daniel Angiolillo.

Contact: Sis. Rose Tassone, 949-9472.

Sunday, October 27
Columbus Dinner Dance

TBA

Come celebrate with us as we honor **Sis. Catherine and Bro. Lenny Mignini**, our 2013 awardees for Couple of the Year at the Villa Barone in Mahopac. \$85 pp. Please reserve.



Contact: Sis. Flavia DiNota, 769-8987.

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!

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.

SNAPSHOTS

A LOOK AT LODGE LIFE AND EVENTS IN PHOTOS



Klondike Boat Party Cruise — June 15 Chairpersons **Sis. Tina and Bro. Tony Amato** (below) organized the very enjoyable cruise event that had Meucci Members and friends sailing around Manhattan while eating, partying and dancing. Pictured on the boat at left with Sis. Tina are her family members **Sis. Diana Egglauf**, Toni Marie Amato, Josephine Biagi, **Bro. Joe Amato** and Kim Guaragna.



NYS Grand Lodge Convention — Ten representatives from our Lodge travelled to the Convention at the Villa Roma Resort and Conference Center in the Catskills that ran May 30– June 2. The Antonio Meucci Members took part in various workshops and worked on committees furthering the goals of the Order while enjoying some social activities, such as the welcome luncheon above. The group was on hand to see the installation of new state officers and the new NYS Grand Lodge president, Joseph Rondinelli. Standing from the left are **Bros. Charlie Tota and Domenico Rivero**, **Sisters Paula Pesaturo and Rose Tassone**, and **Bros. Joe Tassone and Vito Cirioni**. Seated from the left are **Sis. Mary Morra**, **Pres. Teresa Rivero**, **Bro. Tony Capicotto** and **Sis. Franca Capicotto**. The four-day convention is held annually in late May/early June and is attended by representatives of Lodges throughout the state.



2013 Couple of the Year — **Sis. Catherine and Bro. Lenny Mignini** were chosen by the Columbus Dinner Dance Selection Committee to receive the Lodge's annual honor, which will be presented at this year's Columbus Day Dinner Dance on October 27. The couple was chosen for their loyalty, hard work and dedication to the Lodge. Congratulations on your well-deserved honor!

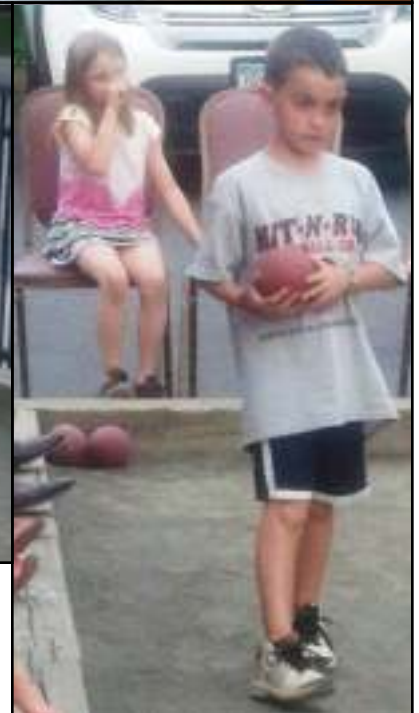
PhotoCredits: Cruise, Migninis, Adult Bocce, **Sis. Mary Morra**; Convention, **Sis. Paula Pesaturo**; Kid's Bocce, **Bro. Rich Hoffmann**

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

SUMMER BOCCE TOURNAMENTS



Competition was intense but fun at this year's Adult Co-ed Tournament and in the end, the team led by **Bro. John Rubillo** with players **Bros. Domenick D'Ambrosio, Nick Fragnito and Mike DiSavino** (at left) triumphed over the team led by **Bro. Rocco Cermele** with players **Bros. Peter Occhipinti, Nick Cafagno and Joe Lopane** (below, left). Chairperson **Joe Amato** (pictured below on the right with Bros. John Rubillo and **Vito Cirioni**) did a terrific job handling the scheduling and other tournament duties while **Bro. Cirioni**, along with **Bro. Lenny Mignini**, served as the tournament's main referees. Thanks to all who made this series a success and a special thank you to **Bro. Domenico Rivero** for making the special Bocce Board (at right) for keeping score.



Over 40 children are currently enjoying competing in the Children's Bocce Tournament, which started on June 19 and runs until the second week of July. A fun kick-off party was held for the players and their families and friends on June 22, and everyone had a blast. Above, Marisa Hoffmann (granddaughter of **Pres. Rivero**) gives it her best shot while at right, Nicky Portanova (grandson of **Bro. Nick and Sis. Angela Fragnito**), strategizes his next throw. The series continues in July and culminates with Championship Night on July 15.

IN THE NEWS

What's Going On With Our Members

GET WELL WISHES TO Bro. Tony Vaccaro and Sis. Connie Bevilaqua, who were recently hospitalized but are now recuperating at home. We hope you feel better soon!
CONGRATULATIONS to Brigida and Nicholas Capicotto,

grandchildren of **Bro. Tony and Sis. Franca Capicotto**, who have each won 2013 NYS Grand Lodge Scholarships.
MORE CONGRATULATIONS: To **Bro. Roberto Caso** on the graduation from Lehigh College of his son David; to **Bro. Umberto**

Amato on the engagement of his granddaughter Jessica Di Salvo to Mr. Marcelo Barreto; to **Sis. Mary DiMarino** on the engagement of her granddaughter Jillian Svenjak to Dennis Whiting; to **Sis. Maria and Bro. Aldino Forcone**, on the birth of their granddaughter Daniela

Maria to their daughter Dina Dimarco and her husband Frank: to **Bro. Ron and Sis. Margaret Cardillo** on the marriage of their son Ron to Dianna.
Have any news to share?
Call Pres. Teresa Rivero at (914) 997-7388.



Scholarships *Continued from page 1*
 nice to see the children and grandchildren of our Members receiving awards," she added. This year's recipients included three grandchildren of Members **Bro. Tony and Franca Capicotto**, twins Brigida and Nicholas Capicotto and Marc Lee.

Comprising the six awards this year were four Antonio Meucci Lodge Scholarships of \$500 each, the Cermele Family Scholarship of \$500 and the White Plains Columbus Day Festival Scholarship also in the amount of \$500.

The Lodge scholarships were awarded to Brigida Capicotto, Alexandra Tartaglia, Marc Lee and Nicholas Capicotto. Jessica Tiburzi was the recipient of the White Plains Columbus Day Festival Scholarship, which was presented by **Bro. Frank Tarone**, who is president of the White Plains Columbus Day Parade Committee, and **Sis. Paula Pesaturo**, the Committee's Vice president. On hand to present their namesake award to Christina Zaccardi were **Bros. Carlo, Mario and Joseph Cermele**.

A highlight of the ceremony was the performance by student Alexandra Tartaglia, who sang an aria. The awardee will be pursuing a musical career when she begins university later this year.

Congratulations to all the recipients and best of luck in their future endeavors!

PHOTOS — *Above left:* **Bro. Frank Tarone** (3rd from the right in the front row) and **Sis. Paula Pesaturo** (first on the left) who presented the White Plains Columbus Day Festival Scholarship, join the other recipients and Scholarship Committee Members in celebrating the evening. *At left:* The Cermele Family Scholarship is presented to Christina Zaccardi by **Bros. Carlo, Mario and Joseph Cermele**.

REMINDERS

AVANTI SUBMISSIONS — Please submit any item for publication by the day after the General Meeting preceding the month of publication. **Example:** The next issue will be the Sept/October issue and the General Meeting for August is August 27. **The deadline for submissions is August 28.**

LODGE DUES — If you haven't done so yet, please pay your Lodge Dues!

LODGE CENTENNIAL — Do you have any ideas on how to celebrate our upcoming anniversary? Let Pres. Teresa Rivero or Centennial Chairperson Rose Tassone know! Everyone is welcome to make suggestions or take on a project. Call Pres. Teresa at 997-7388 or Sis. Rose at 949-9472.

WANTED: LODGE MEMORABILIA

Photos, Souvenirs,
Documents, Records, Etc.
to help us celebrate our
Centennial. Call Pres.
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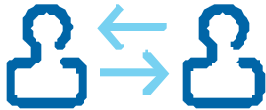
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