

HISTORY & MISSION

THE idea to join an existing Boca Raton Lodge or start a new one from scratch was conceived in the backyard of Frank Giacalone's home in the Boca Winds community. A few months prior, Bill Petraglia and Frank had met and realized they had a few things in common, not only Brooklyn as their original hometown, but their love of their mutual Italian heritage. They both agreed that there were numerous Italian-Americans living in the general Boca Raton area who felt like them, that a part of their "Italian Lifestyle" was missing. Italian people throughout history are known for their fraternalism and generosity. What separates the Sons of Italy in America from other social groups is the fact that no other group can compare its culture, customs, and contributions to society.

Our Mission is to unite all Italian-American families in our area and to continue to carry on the generations of our customs, and to promote these principles. The Leonardo DaVinci Lodge #2841 will continue its mission, and as the fastest growing lodge in the So. Florida area, will become a leading voice for all Italian-Americans.

*Buon
Anno
a Tutti!*

1st Annual Christmas Dinner & Dance ~ Sunday December 16, 2007 ~



* Lodge #2841 *

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2008
Wednesday, Feb. 27, 2008
Wednesday, Mar. 26, 2008
Wednesday, Apr. 23, 2008
Wednesday, May 28, 2008
Wednesday, June 25, 2008

*Executive Meetings take place
the week before these dates.*

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

*Please remember to Renew your
membership at our next meeting
or call Paul Pontrelli at 561-
477-3302 or John Dragone at
561-414-1092.*

Your membership is important!

DUES & MEMBERSHIP

The Leonardo da Vinci Lodge #2841 holds general membership meetings on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Peter Blum YMCA located at 6631 Palmetto Circle South in Boca Raton, Florida. Refreshments and socialization follow each meeting. Please come and experience congeniality "Italian-Style". Annual dues are \$60. (\$5./per person per month) Paul Pontrelli at 561-477-3302 or John Dragone at 561-414-1092.

The Sons of Italy is a national fraternal non-profit organization with 575,000 members. Among the objectives of our benevolent organization, are the desires to make donations to charitable institutions and causes, provide scholarships to worthy individuals and to encourage the dissemination of Italian culture in the U.S.

MESSAGE FROM

The President...

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas! It's was definitely a very busy season for all.

At this time I would like to thank the Social Chairperson, Joe Giacalone, and his entire committee for a splendid job well done at our annual Christmas Party. I hope everyone had a great time and enjoyed the food and the music.

As the new year starts, the Leonardo Da Vinci Lodge will be growing in many ways. We are the fastest growing lodge in South Florida and the most active in the state. The lodge will have many functions coming up, starting with the Valentine Day Dance on Saturday, February 16 at the St.Jude's Church. We will have an Italian buffet dinner and live band. Please bring all your friends and relatives to the dance, they will enjoy the food and the music. Remember this is your lodge, please support it and be active by attending all the functions and by helping out on any committee you may choose. Without the help of all the members we will not be able to accomplish our goals and bring this lodge forward. Please contact Paul Pontrelli @ 561-477-3302 or 561-445-4905 for tickets.

There are many functions that the lodge is hoping to put together for example: We are working on a cruise to the Caribbean, a field day trip to the



Frank Giacalone

Vizcaya Museum & Gardens in Miami, also a fashion show and other possible functions. This is the time to get in touch with the Social chairman Bill Petraglia @ 561-558-5688 to discuss which committee is suitable to you and to be part of and what it details. Just remember the more you get involved the more you will enjoy the lodge and the members.

REMINDER: *If you haven't paid your dues for 2008 as yet, now is the time for the year. Just a small amount for what will be a very rewarding and enjoyable year for you and your family.*

A special thank to the newsletter chairperson, Tony DiPerna and his committee, for making this enjoyable newsletter a reality. This will be a very informative for all members regarding all the upcoming functions and news regarding all our brothers and sisters. A special Thank You to all the other chairpersons and committee's for their hard work, everyone is doing a GREAT JOB.

*LETS ALL WORK TOGETHER
ARRIVEDERCI*

PRESIDENT FRANK GIACALONE

DONATION TO JOE DIMAGGIO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

On Thursday, Dec 13th, officers of the Sons of Italy Leonardo da Vinci Lodge #2841 in Boca Raton made a donation of gifts and a check to the Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital in Hollywood, Florida. From Left, Mr. William Petraglia, *1st V.P., Sons of Italy*, Mr. John Galina, *Trustee, Sons of Italy*, Mr. Frank Sacco, C.E.O., Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital, Hollywood, FL., Mr. Frank Giacalone, *Pres., Sons of Italy*, Boca Raton, FL, Mr. Paul Pontrelli, *Orator, Sons of Italy*, Mr. Kevin Janser, Vice Pres., Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital.



1ST ANNUAL 50's-60's Doo Wop Dance SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3, 2007



PEOPLE, PLACES & EVENTS *by Tony DiPerna*

Every Da Vinci Lodge meeting features a short talk on an important Italian person, place or event by member, Anthony Di Perna, Ph.D., a former professor of history at Molloy College, Rockville Centre, N.Y. At the November meeting, Tony presented a biography of our Lodge's namesake, Leonardo Da Vinci (1452-1519). He recounted the early manifestations of Leonardo's artistic talents, and anecdotes about events, some humorous, associated with two of his most famous paintings, The Last Supper and the Mona Lisa. We learned that Leonardo revolutionized painting techniques in perfecting the use of linear perspective, a sort of HD view, and by a style known as chiaroscuro (light and shadow) as well as sfumato (mistiness). Tony described Leonardo's many other immense talents — sculptor, engineer, inventor, musician, to name a

few. His notebooks of over 5,000 pages are filled with drawings and notations of theoretical devices and machines from the simple hydraulic jack to the helicopter. Leonardo was an early proponent of science and technology, and would have been perfectly at home in the 21st century. His one deficiency was his propensity for leaving projects unfinished as his restless curiosity took him to his next endeavor before finishing the one at hand. He certainly was aware of this flaw as shown by the words that appear over-and-over in his notebooks: *Di mi se mai fa futta alcuna cosa* (Tell me if anything was ever completed). Although not a particularly religious man, on his deathbed, he called for a priest, and died in the priest's arms in the Church. For centuries, the world has claimed him as one of the greatest geniuses that ever lived, but we Italians know... he was one of us!



OUR FEBRUARY MEETING WILL FEATURE:

Guest speaker, **Dr. Salvatore La Gumina**, *Director of the Center for Italian-American Studies at Nassau Community College* on Long Island. He will discuss his latest book, *The Humble and the Heroic: Wartime Italian-Americans*. Dr. La Gumina has authored seventeen books, and dozens of scholarly articles mostly dealing with the Italian experience in the United States.

LIST OF OFFICERS

<i>President</i>	Frank Giacalone	561-470-1149
<i>1st VP</i>	William Petraglia	561-558-5688
<i>2nd VP</i>	Joseph Giacalone	561-929-0969
<i>Orator</i>	Paul Pontrelli	561-477-3302
<i>Recording Sec</i>		
<i>Financial Sec</i>	Maria Gulisano	561-716-0943
<i>Treasurer</i>	John Gianatasio	561-477-3387
<i>Master of Ceremony</i>	John Dragone	561-414-1092
<i>Mistress of Ceremony</i>	Diane Dragone	561-414-1083
<i>Guard</i>	Vinnie Gulisano	561-716-0939
<i>Trustee</i>	Robert Magaletti	561-852-8785
<i>Trustee</i>	Joseph Manno	954-354-0941
<i>Trustee</i>	John Gallina	954-753-9436
<i>Trustee</i>	Anthony DiPerna	561-488-1663

NEWS CONCERNING ALL OUR BROTHERS & SISTERS...

In going forward we will be announcing New Members that join our Lodge and also we will be including advertising areas for our Members in designated areas of our New Newsletter.