

CHAPTER NEWS

Spring 2006

COLORADO

- Meet **Jake Regan**, 8 years old and the youngest member of the **Denver Lodge #2075** in Wheat Ridge, at his installation ceremony last September. For his birthday, the third-grader asked to become an OSIA member. He is the grandson of **Pam Wright**, president of the Colorado Grand Lodge and the great-grandson of **Joe Ciancio**, an OSIA national trustee, who founded both the Denver Lodge and the state grand lodge. Jake was recently elected to his school's student council.
- Since it began in 1998, the 400-member **the Southern Colorado Lodge #2738** in Pueblo has given out more than \$60,000 in scholarships, promotes the study of Italian in all city high schools and established Pueblo's first Sister City exchange with Europe (with Bergamo, Italy).

Now it has published a 56-page study on the history of history of Italian Americans in Pueblo. To purchase a copy for \$10.00, contact Michael Salardino at 719/545-6630 or at michael.salardino@smithbarney.com.

MASSACHUSETTS

- OSIA Past National President **Philip Boncore, Esq.** has been elected one of two Councilors-At-Large in Winthrop where a nine-member Town Council governs under a Town Manager. He belongs to the **Winthrop Mixed Lodge #2057**.

MICHIGAN

- For more than 22 years, the **Sons of Italy Lodge #2456 Choir** in Saginaw has been performing Italian songs for special occasions and to entertain people in nursing homes. The group has just put together a CD of their favorite songs. Contact Bob Paetz at repaetz@diamondscs.net

NEW JERSEY

- Feeding the elderly and giving presents to children with special needs are just two of the ways that the **Alighieri-Garibaldi Lodge #494** in Collingswood celebrates the holidays and their heritage. The oldest active lodge in the state, it was founded in 1911 and today has about 100 members.

NEW YORK

- **ALITO RALLY** OSIA participated with other Italian American organizations and leaders in a New York City rally supporting Samuel Alito's Supreme Court nomination. The event was organized by **Ambassador Charles A. Gargano**, co-chair of the Italian Americans for Judge Alito Coalition on Jan. 17.

OHIO

- OSIA's Garibaldi-Meucci Museum on Staten Island, NY got a valuable addition to its collection of Garibaldi memorabilia last November when **Armando Pileggi** donated a revolver that once belonged to the great Italian military leader. Armando is a past president of the **Ben V. Marconi Lodge #1628** in Canton.

TEXAS

- Three generations of Ursone men have served in the Army's medical corps, reports At-Large member **Gen. Richard Ursone**. His father, **Louis**, was a combat medic in World War II while his son, **Major Rick Ursone, M.D.**, is a staff orthopedic surgeon at the Brook Army Medical Center in San Antonio, where he is taking care of soldiers who return from Iraq with amputated limbs. **Gen. Ursone**, now retired, was the chief of the Medical Service Corp in Europe, which helps deliver health care on the battlefield and in Army hospitals.

VIRGINIA

- Tireless champion of Italian language promotion, **Len Durso** and fellow OSIA members represented OSIA at the Convention of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages in Baltimore last November. Len, a founding member of COPILAS, which promotes the study of Italian in the Greater Washington area, manned an Italian booth at the convention along with **Maria Wilmeth** and **Mario Ciarlo** of the **George Washington Lodge #2038** in Arlington along with the lodge president **Jim Cocco**.

OSIA MOURNS

Our Order has suffered the following losses recently which we announce with deepest sorrow and sympathy to the families.

- Former Grand Lodge President of Virginia **Salvatore Ferrante** on December 16, 2005. Sammy belonged to the Italo-American Citizens Lodge #1077.
- Former National Recording Secretary **Lorraine K. Fama** on January 31st. Lorraine was a longstanding, devoted member of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge.

- **Carmen Aspromonte**, mother of former NY CSJ Chair, Santina Haemmerle, died February 12.
- **Father Donald B. Licata**, OSIA's National Chaplain *Emeritus*, died March 3. He had served as OSIA'S national chaplain since his appointment in 1991 by then-OSIA National President Peter Zuzolo.