



SOUTH CAROLINA

Benvenuti to the 51 members of OSIA’s new **Enrico Fermi Lodge #2849** in Spartanburg. The lodge was formally launched last fall by OSIA First National Vice President **Joseph DiTrapani** along with the new lodge president **Sam Arnone** and Mayor **Bill Barnet**. Future projects include participating in a local international festival which has never had an “Italy” booth; organizing a golf tournament and other fund-raisers. *Contact Sam at sarnone1@gmail.com (PH: 864-529-2070)*



Members of OSIA's new Enrico Fermi Lodge in South Carolina

OHIO

Ninety years old and still going strong! That’s the **Youngstown Lodge #858** (formerly the Napoleone Colaianni Lodge.) Founded July 28, 1918, the lodge today has 88 adults and 17 juvenile members, reports President **Timothy Komara**. Soon after its founding, it offered English and citizenship classes to immigrants. Later on, in the 1960s, it donated money to help Italian earthquake victims and recently founded and sponsored Italian classes for adults in the community.

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RHODE ISLAND

For the third summer in a row, the **Grand Lodge of RI** in Providence sponsored Italian American Track and Field Championships, reports **Robert Palazzo**, one of its organizers. The day featured 15 competitions, including the javelin, shot put, long jump and pole vault. “We haven’t set any national records yet,” says Palazzo, “but we are working on it!” In the meantime, the event brings out members and their families and attracts new people, according to Palazzo.

GOT A GOOD STORY?

Have you or your lodge done something remarkable that makes a difference to your community or promotes our heritage? Send details with your lodge’s name and number (photo optional) to: ITALIAN AMERICA Magazine, 219 E Street NE, Washington, DC 20002 or E-mail ddeanctis@osia.org. Include daytime phone no. Entries not acknowledged and photos not returned unless requested.



Honors & Awards

Ernie Almonte, CPA is the new chairman of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, which has over 350,000 members. He is auditor general for Rhode Island and belongs to the Renaissance Alliance Lodge #1966 in Lincoln, near Providence.

Tom Bergbauer, Jr. cut the ribbon on Oct. 31 to celebrate the opening of a permanent home for Cathedral Kitchen, a non-profit organization that feeds the poor of Camden, NJ. Tom is NJ Grand Lodge president and a member of the Mt. Ephram Lodge #2362 in Mt. Ephram. He is also president of Cathedral Kitchen where he has volunteered for more than 15 years.

Janice Pizzello, of the Seattle Fedele Lodge #1390 in Washington State has been selected by the Pepsi Company to promote the fight against breast cancer. A breast cancer survivor, her photo is on Pepsi packaging sold in the western U.S. Read her story at www.sharingcourage.com.

Dominick Potena, Ed.D. has been named Superintendent of the Year by the NJ Association of School Administers. He has served as superintendent of the Margate school district since 1982 and belongs to the Vicin'al Mare Lodge #2601 in Margate.

NORTH CAROLINA

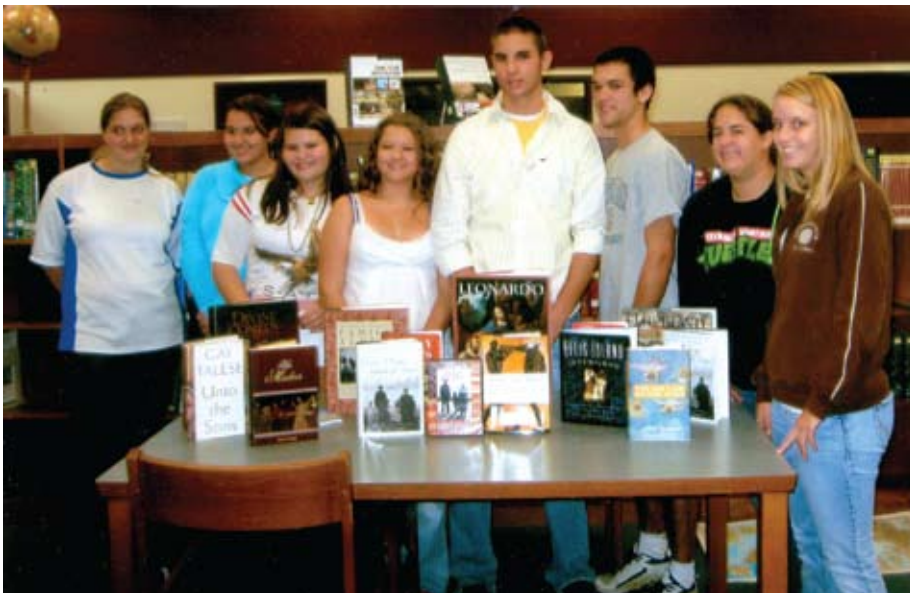
Tapping the Sons of Italy Speakers Bureau, the **Triangle Lodge #2817** in Raleigh invited Justin Catanoso to speak about his book, "My Cousin the Saint," his tribute to Padre Gaetano Catanoso, whom Pope John Paul approved for sainthood in 2005.

About 70 people came for the talk and book-signing and stayed for coffee and Italian desserts. The lodge donated the evening's \$400 proceeds to support an Italian Christmas concert.



Author Justin Catanoso

PENNSYLVANIA



Young Italian Americans who like to read about their heritage got a boost last fall when the **Eugene Morabito of America Lodge # 735** donated books to the Italian Club at Greensburg Salem High School. The books on Italian topics are part of the club's growing library. The lodge helped found the club in 2007 "to share our rich heritage with all who are interested," says lodge president **Joyce Ruisi-Chmel**.

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