

Le Spiagge

The Beaches:
Fernandina, Mayport, Atlantic, Neptune,
Jacksonville & Ponte Vedra



Spring 2009: Volume 5 No. 1

website: www.beachesosia.com

2009 Dinners & Meetings

Adele Grage Cultural Center
716 Ocean Blvd, A.B.

3rd Wednesday of each month:

6:00pm Doors open - social

6:30pm Dinner **

7:30pm General Meeting

April 15

Spaghetti, Meatball & Sausage dinner \$8

May 20

Pizza & Salad dinner \$8

June 17

Antipasti e vino

July 15

Hot Dog w/ salads, baked beans, slaw \$8

August 19

Antipasti e vino

September 16

Chicken dishes featured, grilled chicken! \$8

October 21

Chili Cook-off, Cornbread \$8

November 18

no dinner served -

coffee & desserts 6:30 - 7:30

December 16

Christmas Gathering - very short meeting

** *Some of our dinners will begin at 6:15pm;
we will keep you posted on earlier start times*

Council Meetings

*Monday evenings prior to General Meetings,
7:00 pm, Barbara Othmer residence, J.B.*

Buona Pasqua 2009

I'm back.... and I'm guessing you're stuck with me as newsletter editor for quite awhile!

Part of the difficulty will be relieved by making this a .pdf file for placing into our website. I will also send the newsletter to you via email as an attachment.

Microsoft Publisher will be my future choice of software - it's been the choice of many organizations and small businesses for several years, and I think it's time to make the big switch. It's great software, but I've used professional publishing software since 1989, making it more difficult to go backwards. I guess the manual goes to Italy with me!

This newsletter is an addition to our Member Notebooks - you have everyone's birthdays and anniversaries in your updated Roster (I just sent one to you last week).

If calendars are greatly changed, those, too, will be updated and sent to you for printing at your end.

Dennis is keeping our website current with event dates, all changes in the schedules, and the Photo Gallery. Try to visit the website periodically.

Your suggestions are always welcome - please email us with anything you might wish to see in the future.

Cheryl



Hearts and Flowers



Remember to keep the following members and their loved ones in your thoughts and prayers -

*Mary Diaz
Neftali Diaz
Paul Fiore
Geri Mauro
Anna Moscarello*

Charities

Our Hot Dog/Italian Sausage Sale on March 15th added another \$200 to our Fund! A huge thanks to the workers: Joe, Dennis, Hank (still the best cook ever), Igor, Jean, Joneanne, and the rest of us regular supporters to run and fetch as needed...more visting than running, but hey, we can't stay away from this kind of fun!

We tried something new - Joe brought another long table and we set it up for dining al fresco! Our patrons seemed to enjoy it, so it's one more thing that's been fine-tuned to make our customers' dining experiences enjoyable - they actually join in our conversations and laughter!! And thanks to our recent Yard Sale, we got our hands on a long, dark green tablecloth that has now been set aside in the Hot Dog Sale bin. Thank you, anonymous donor of something we needed.

Joe is arranging for yet another yummy event. Look, we all have to eat lunch. Member support is needed, if you can possibly swing it. And bring your friends - they have to eat, too.

MS Walk is this Saturday, April 18th. We apologize that we won't be in town to walk the event and don't seem to have anyone to coordinate our annual lodge walk. Instead, those who are able, can give your donation in cash or check to Rose at the Wednesday general meeting - she will make sure Ben gets the donations!

Scholarship

The Yard & Bake Sale last Saturday provided us with sunny skies, warm weather and another morning of fun and laughter for the workers. Oh, and \$230 for the Scholarship Fund!! We do better in the fall, but every penny is worth the work. The workers decided that it's another \$230 we didn't have before... and thank you, Kristin, for getting up at 5:30am to bake the cookies! They seemed to be selling well.

We have enough funds to provide two \$750 scholarships this school year, and we've extended our deadline to May 1st. Kristin called every high school in our area to notify them of this latest change.

The next Murder Mystery Dinner, scheduled for a June 7th performance by our very own lodge thespians, is in planning stages. The ticket price will be affordable, but most importantly, we want this to be a truly enjoyable event for cast and audience! More information will follow...

Remember, we need your finest household cast-offs for our **November Yard and Bake Sale.**

If you haven't had a chance to pay the first half of our annual dues, please mail your check, payable to *Beaches Lodge 2821*, to:

Kristin Berg, Fin. Secretary
7 Burling Way
Jax Beach, FL 32250

\$30 / year: seniors 70 yrs & older
\$30 / year: college students
\$40 / year: military member
\$40 / year: military spouse
\$60 / year: the rest of us

Our next payment is due July 1st.

If you don't have a current member card, please contact Kristin for a new one. Remember, when you travel to another city and want to visit their local lodge, use your card for proof of membership in OSIA. That should get you through their door...

Culture & Heritage

We are going to be in the **Opening of the Beaches Parade on Sunday, April 26th!!!** Put on your walking shoes, don your lodge t-shirt, khaki shorts or pants, some sunblock and sunglasses, and off we'll go. The parade kicks off at 2pm, but we need to be in line by 12:30 (the driver and the pick up truck); walkers need to be available but probably won't have to join up until maybe 1:30-1:45-ish.

Our marching orders will come from Maria in a separate email. Please let her know asap if you wish to be a walker. You can bring your little one in a stroller if you wish. We will be handing out brochures to the parade 'audience' along the sidewalks!

Book Reading

Our selection for the **Book Club reading group on Monday, June 8th** is **"Stolen Figs and Other Adventures in Calabria"**. Barbara Othmer will host our reading group in June.

Our Lodge is now part of the Books A Million Community Club, providing us a 20% discount on any of our selected books. The only qualification is that we need to get an advance count of books to be ordered (the discount does not apply at other times). Unclaimed books will be returned to the BooksAMillion warehouse.

We need one week to get these books into the store - the deadline is this Friday. Please email me or call me (leave a message if I'm not available)

Sorry for the short timeframe, but we will only have six weeks by the time we order and then get our reading completed.

You do not need to join the reading group to order a book. Feel free to place your order when the rest of us do, and you're welcome to create your own Italian American reading library. But the 20% discount sure is a nice feature!

Social

We hope you're all referring to your 2009 Calendar that was distributed last November and December. If you didn't get yours, that just means we didn't see you at a meeting and can get one delivered to you - we just expect you to call and request it.

Dennis is keeping our social information totally updated on our website (www.beachesosia.com). It always has the latest and greatest info, so refer to it when you can.

And check out the Photo Gallery! It's also updated regularly.

**Who's Coming To Dinner
Tomorrow Night???**

**We need our head count quickly -
if you haven't already let me know,
call me today...**

thank you thank you

Grand Lodge Calendar Sales

see Dennis at the meetings

Our lodge has been lucky with winners in the past...
make sure you're one of them!
\$50 per calendar

(our lodge gets a nice return when we purchase these calendars - good operating funds for us)





The Beer Haus
2292 Mayport Rd, A.B.
(left of NEX)

Billy Johnson - son of Bill and Joanna Johnson - carries Peroni, a perfect Italian beer for your perfect Italian dinner or any other occasion!

Hours: 11am - 8pm, Mon - Sat
closed Sundays

He will also order whatever you might be looking for - just let him know....

The Italian Market
645 Atlantic Blvd., A.B.

Lodge member Carmela Varone makes incredible sandwiches and entrees for eating in or taking home.

Hours: 10am - 7pm, Tues - Sat
closed Sunday & Monday
phone: 241.8992
website: www.theitalianmarket.biz

If you want to make your own meals, Carmela has all the true Italian ingredients you will need to prepare just about any impressive Italian dish. When you shop there, please tell her you're a fellow lodge member.

The Italian Market now carries fine Italian wines!

Bella Gelato
13475 Atlantic Blvd., Jax
(at San Pablo)
near the new SteinMart

Hours: Seasons dictate their hours
check their website for hours & flavors:
www.bellajax.com

Summer's almost here! Can't get to Italy any time soon? This is a great place to hang out for your gelato or Italian ice fix - don't count the calories!

Please support our vendors!

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