

# 2024

**109<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
(1915-2024)**

**Duca Degli Abruzzi**

**Lodge #443**

**Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in  
America**



**Saturday, October 19. 2024**

**Sons of Italy Lodge Hall**

**Endicott, New York**

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***Our Annual Italian Heritage Celebration  
is in memory of Our Departed Brothers \****

2024

Joseph Leo Dessel  
Jack Rossi

2023

Michael Ciotoli  
Louis A. Fiacco  
Robert A. Martone  
Gary Pucedo  
Edmund Italo Roma  
Amedeo Sylvester  
Jimmy R. Terwiliger

2022

Mario Baldelli

***May They Rest in Peace  
“Gone But Not Forgotten”***

\*In 2022 and 2023, names of deceased members  
were not available.



In addition, we honor the men and women of our  
Armed Forces who have given the ultimate  
sacrifice so that we can remain free.

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# Duca Degli Abruzzi Lodge #443

Endicott, New York

## *Sons of Italy in America*

## MEN OF THE YEAR

1984- Roger Giovannelli

1985 -Anthony (Tony)Coletta

1986 - Dom Putrino

1987 - Nino Egitto

1988 - Tony Massi

1989 - Candido Tiberia

1990 - Luigi Gobbo

1991 - Carmelo Pellitteri

1992 - "Christopher Columbus"

1993 - Armando Ligouri

1994 - Rocco Quaranta

1995 - Robert Daglio

1996 - Louis E. Petrilli

1997 - Joseph P. Conte

1998 - Anthony Quaranta

1999 - Patrick J. Iandoli

2000 - Steve Rogers

2001- Italo Roma

2002- Ralph Mancini & Joe Pastore

2003 - Pat Traglia & Fran Cochardo

2004- Lou Buiocchi & George Corino

2005 - Lucien Ancilotti & Lewis E.  
Kadleck

2006-Michael Maione &  
Benny DiLorenzo

2007- Ron Renald & Cosimo A.  
DelSanto

2008-Jim Spatafora & Pat Cerra

2009-Peter Fiorini & Rudy Paoletti

2010- "Mike DiPetro"

2011 - Matt Coletta & Roman  
Passante

2012 - Joe Dessel & Gene Drobny

2013 - Tony Rose

2014- Dave DeAngelo & John Sbarra

2015- Robert Grannis & Gene Roma

1915-2015- Man of the Century:  
George F. Johnson

2016 - Ron Rotella

2017- Brian Lane

2018- Bob Goeckel &  
Bob Ollerenshaw

2019- Lewis Kadleck

2020 - Ray Howard &  
Andrew Robble

2021- Dick Ferrara

2022- All Previous Men of the Year

2023- Anthony Fiacco

---

# DUCA DEGLI ABRUZZI

## LODGE #443

### Officers 2023-2024

President.....	Matt Coletta
Immediate Past President.....	Steve Rogers
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice-President .....	Roman Passante
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-President.....	Andy Robble
Orator.....	Lew Kadleck
Recording Secretary .....	Tom Ferraro
Financial Secretary .....	Ben Amorese
Treasurer.....	John Sbarra
Ceremonial Officers.....	Bob Arnold Tony Rose
Sentinels .....	Ralph Mancini Mike Maione
Chaplain.....	Open
State Deputy/Lodge.....	Marlene Gioia
Trustees.....	Paul VanVestrou Bob Goeckel Carmelo Peletieri Joe Franchini Luigi Gobbo



## *Grand Lodge of New York*

*Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America*

2101 Bellmore Avenue, Bellmore, NY 11710  
Tel. 516.785.4623 • Fax 516.221.6742 • WWW.NYSOSIA.ORG

*Biagio J. Isgro, Jr.*  
State President

October 19, 2024

Dear National Officers, State Officers, Brothers and Sisters, President Matthew Coletta, Officers and Members of the Duca Degli Abruzzi Lodge No. 443, Guests one and all:

What a sincere pleasure to send warm and fraternal greetings on behalf of the New York Grand Lodge, Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America on the occasion of your 109th Annual Italian Heritage Columbus Day Celebration.

It is fitting that this evening we thank the officers and members of the Duca Degli Abruzzi Lodge for their dedication to our treasured organization. Your Lodge has always been an integral part of our New York Grand Lodge and we look forward to many more years of continued participation. In addition, I join in offering best wishes to this evening's honorees.

The New York Grand Lodge is dedicated to promoting our shared Italian culture, traditions, language and legacy of our ancestors and represents the very best of what it means to be of Italian heritage. We will continue to support our youth with scholarships and are committed to continuing the many philanthropic and humanitarian endeavors that are so close to our hearts.

Maintain your good work and always boast of your membership in the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America. It is up to all of us to keep our Order vibrant and to carry on as respected and accomplished Italian Americans. Let us continue to celebrate the successes of our Order as well as commemorate the past, present and future of our extraordinary organization.

Best wishes for a wonderful event and many more years of continued success.

Sincerely,

*Biagio J. Isgro, Jr.*

Biagio J. Isgro, Jr.  
State President  
Grand Lodge of New York

*Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America is the oldest and largest organization of Italian American men and women in the United States*

---

**CONGRATULATIONS TO  
THE DUCA DEGLI ABRUZZI  
LODGE #443 ON ITS  
109th ANNIVERSARY**

**“WE ARE TRULY HONORED TO HAVE YOU AS A BROTHER  
LODGE AND LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING TOGETHER TO  
CONTINUE MAKING UPSTATE A STRONG PART OF THE NEW  
YORK STATE ORDER SONS OF ITALY IN AMERICA. YOUR  
SUCCESS REFLECTS THE GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS  
THAT WE AS A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION STRIVE TO  
ACHIEVE AND CONTINUE FOR YEARS TO COME.”**

**SEMPRE AVANTI I TANTI AUGURI**

**Biagio Isgro Jr.  
NYS OSDIA State President**

**Marisol Isgro**

**&**

**Maurizio Andreozzi – President  
Officers and Members  
Roma Intangible Lodge #215  
Albany, New York**

---

Congratulations and Best Wishes  
to President Matt  
and all Our Brothers  
of the  
DUCA DEGLI ABRUZZI LODGE #443  
on the occasion  
of your 109th Columbus Day Celebration



*COMPLIMENTS OF*  
**JOSEPH SCIAME**

National Past President  
Supreme Lodge, OSDIA  
and  
State Past President  
Grand Lodge of New York

---

Congratulations  
To All Our Good Friends at  
The Duca Degli Abruzzi  
Lodge #443  
109th Italian Heritage Celebration

Tanti Auguri  
To All the Scholarship Recipients

Anthony Naccarato  
NYS Immediate Past President

Mary Naccarato  
NYS Gift of Sight Chairperson

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*To My Brothers  
of the  
Duca Degli Abruzzi Lodge*

*Happy 109th Columbus Day Celebration*

*Hope to see you all soon!*

**THOM LUPO**  
**National 1st Vice President**



Congratulations and Best Wishes  
to the  
**Duca Degli Abruzzi Lodge #443**  
Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America

From Your Brothers and Sisters of  
**Progresso Lodge #1047**  
Syracuse, New York

Josephine Federico, President

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# Congratulations to the 2024 Scholarship Recipients and the 2024 Man of the Year



Arthur & Joanne Spera  
NYS 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
NYS Scholarship Chairlady

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Best Wishes to Our Brothers  
of the  
Duca Degli Abruzzi Lodge  
on your 109<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Luigi Squillante  
State Second Vice President



Liberty Fraternity Equality

126 Odell Ave., Endicott, NY 13760

*Congratulations and Best Wishes  
To our Brothers, the  
Duca Degli Abruzzi Lodge No. 443  
on their 109<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*Celeste McCormick, President  
and members  
Daughters of Columbus Lodge 1666*

---

**Best Wishes on Your 109th Columbus Day  
Celebration**



**President**

Dana Mastronardi

**Recording Secretary**

Jim DaDamio

**Vice President**

Eugene Ferranti

**Immediate Past President**

Giovanni Scaringi

**Treasurer**

Frank Russo

**Orator**

Mark DeNovellis

**Sentinel**

Rocco Stento

**Financial Secretary**

Jim Mastronardi

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Vince Rotella

Anthony Testani

Joe Sardella

**Trustees**

Nick Richards

Tony Zieno

Ciano Briga

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DUCA DEGLI ABRUZZI  
LODGE #443 ON ITS 109<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ITALIAN  
HERITAGE CELEBRATION, HONORING SCHOLARSHIP  
RECIPIENTS AND MAN OF THE YEAR

SEMPER AVANTI E TANTI AUGURI

NYS OSDIA Principal Trustee

Mark J. Dozoretz  
Sarah Dozoretz



**BEER  
TREE  
BREW**

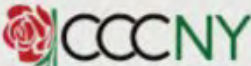
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# Congratulations

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Tom Augustini- Deputy Supervisor

Frank Bertoni - Councilmember

Dave Kudgus - Councilmember

Joe Nirchi - Councilmember

Leonard Perfetti - Town Clerk



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# Congratulations

## *109th Anniversary*

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**Duca  
Degli  
Abruzzi**



**Lodge  
#443**






**Best wishes to the Duca Degli Abruzzi  
Lodge on your 109<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Italian Heritage Columbus Day Celebration**

Thank you for continuing make a positive difference  
through your many contributions to our vibrant  
and diverse community.

**AKSHAR**  
—★—  
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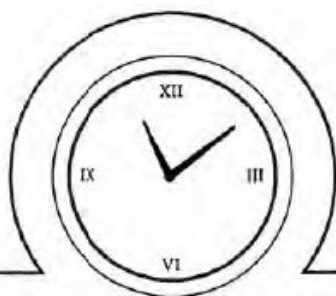
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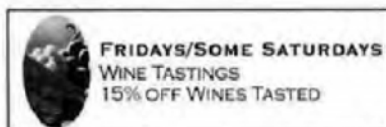
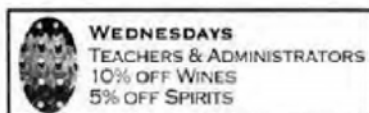
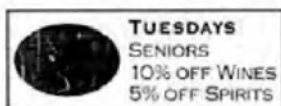
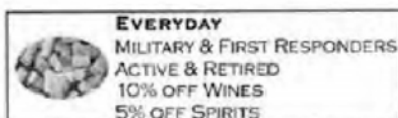
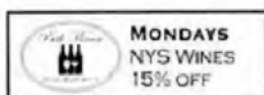
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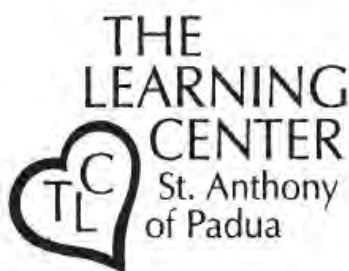
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Best wishes to  
our friends at the

**Duca Degli  
Abruzzi Lodge**

for our

109th Annual Italian  
Heritage Columbus Day  
Celebration!



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**PAUL BATTISTI**

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*Best Wishes to The Sons of Italy  
Duca Degli Abruzzi Lodge #443*

**From  
The Village of Endicott**



**Mayor Nick Burlingame**

Trustee Patrick Dorner  
Trustee Ted Warner

Trustee Shellie Spinelli  
Trustee Timothy Wright

Village Manager Anthony Bates

Attorney Robert McKertick

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**Wishing you success on your  
109th celebration!**

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# Taste of Italy

## Menu

### *Cocktail Hour- Tagliere Di Salumi*

(Assorted Italian peppers, cheeses, meats, olives, bread and pizza)

### *Insalata*

(Field greens, spinach, tomatoes, cukes and red onion)

### *Primo*

#### Norcina

(Cavatappi macaroni with a light cream sauce and sausage)

### *Secondo*

#### Chicken "Domenica"

(Buttery wine sauce with artichokes and roasted peppers)

### *Dolco*

#### Cassatta Cake

*Red and white wine included at the tables*

*Entertainment: "Friday @ Fred's"*

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THANK YOU

To all attending  
and to all who helped make our  
109<sup>th</sup> Annual Anniversary a Huge Success.

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# *Program*

## *Welcome*

**Matt Coletta**

President

## *Remarks*

**Celeste Mc Cormick**

Daughters of Columbus Lodge President

## *Scholarship Remarks*

**Tony Rose**

Scholarship Chairman

## *Duca Degli Abruzzi Lodge Scholarship*

**Nora Piotrowicz**

**Nicholas Cuda**

**Domenic Cuda**

**Kimberly Merlino**

**Michael Ferranti**

**Domenick Palmisano**

**Salvatore Caforio**

## *Putrino Family Scholarship*

**Dante Bertoni**

## *Man of the Year Presentation*

**Matt Coletta**

## *Invocation*

**Roman Passante**

Vice-President



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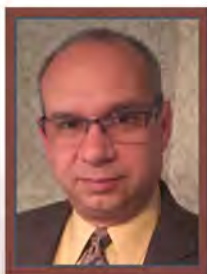
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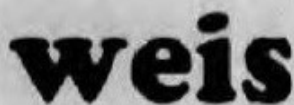
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## DUCA DEGLI ABRUZZI #443

History -from Binghamton University web page

<https://www.binghamton.edu/programs/cap/tours/endicott/soi.html>

1914

A group of Italian residents in Endicott founded and organized the Society Duca Degli Abruzzi for mutual protection and development. The lodge took its name from Luigi Amadeo, Duke of the Abruzzi, who was an Italian nobleman, mountaineer and explorer of the royal House of Savoy. He is known for his Arctic explorations and for his mountaineering expeditions, particularly to Mount Saint Elias (Alaska-Yukon) and K2 (Pakistan-China). He also served as an Italian admiral during World War I.

1915

The lodge accepts an offer to become a unit of the Order of Sons of Italy in America.

1921

George F. and George W. Johnson donate the land for the lodge building and each man donates \$10,000 to the lodge building fund.

1923

Ground broken for building on Odell Avenue.

1924

George F. Johnson added to the building fund with a donation of \$10,000 in Italian Treasury bonds. Opening night festivities featured opera singers, beginning a tradition of opera performers at the lodge that continued into the 1950s.

1933

Women's lodge under the name Principessa Maria Di Piemonte is formed. Later is renamed The Daughters of Columbus Lodge No. 1666.

1937

Columbus Celebration and Burning of the Mortgage, Sunday, October 10, 1937. "After 22 years of hard work and earnest effort members of Italo-American colony of Endicott have cleared the debt from the Duca Delgi Abruzzi Clubhouse of the

Sons of Italy and they celebrated with a mortgage burning ceremony, banquet and dance in their lodge rooms. George W. Johnson, friend of the lodge since its inception, burned the mortgage and gave a brief address." Endicott Bulletin, Monday, October 11, 1937

The 1937 Columbus Day Festival Dance gave away a door prize of a new Chevrolet car. The winning ticket holder was Andrew Spence of Vestal, NY.

1938

Sons of Italy Lodges in New York State begin campaign to boost sales of Endicott-Johnson shoes. "Taking the initial step in their campaign to boost Endicott Johnson's shoes throughout New York State, members of the Duca degli Abruzzi, 443, Lodge of the Sons of Italy in Endicott visited the North Side E.J. Retail Store last Saturday and each purchased a pair of Endicott Johnson shoes." Endicott Johnson Workers Daily News, Monday, May 16, 1938.

1939

Endicott Lodge initiates naturalization drive of all Italian residents in Endicott.

1966

Celebrates 51st Anniversary with a banquet on Saturday, October 8, 1966. Dancing followed dinner to the music of Alex Apalovich and his orchestra.

1990

Celebrates 75th Diamond Anniversary with a banquet on October 13, 1990. The Lodge sponsored an essay contest, "The Italian Influence on American Society", as part of their 75th Anniversary year celebrations. The three winners were: Miss Patricia Giorgi, U-E HS senior, Mr. Chris Tedesco, M-E HS senior, and Miss Jennifer Lasky, U-E HS senior. After dinner music was provided by Los Vega.

2015

celebrated 100 year Anniversary.

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Binghamton Press - May 6, 1924

## MAKE ELABORATE PLAN FOR SONS OF ITALY FETE

**All Endicott Invited to Take Part in Dedication of Temple  
Parades, Speeches, Banquet and Celebration Scheduled**

"With program (on May 9, 1924) beginning at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and lasting until late in the evening, the Sons of Italy on Friday will dedicate their new temple in Oak Hill Avenue (sic). All of Endicott is invited to take part in the festivities, and the day is expected to be one of the gala events of the year.

"George F. Johnson will officially open the temple at 2 o'clock. The keys will be given into his keeping and his will be the honor of first throwing open to the public the building which he has done much to make possible.

"The Building Committee to whom a great deal of credit due...: Anthony Nardini as president Eugenio Sbarra as secretary and Frank Picciano as treasurer....other members L. Egidi, F. Ausili, J. Picciano, P. Rizzuto, G. Rizzuto, E. Antonelli, Rag. De Prisco, N. Camarda, C. Iacovelli, G. Longo,, P. Audino, P. Santodonato, C. Arcangeli, N. Minni, M. D'Aloisio, F. Mosca, L. Gigante, C. Parsi, F. Cascio, G. Lozzi, E. Zicari, L. Palazzo, A. Santacroce, P. Imola, C. Iacovelli, S. Cinotti, F. Perzolla and M. Riolo.

"Officers of the Lodge (in 1924) are: Frank Allio, Venerable; Michael D. Riolo, Asst. Venerable; Michael D'Aloisio, Ex-Venerable; Ignazio Saraceno, orator; Frank Picciano, treasurer; Eugenio Sbarra, corresponding secretary; Leonard Gigante, financial secretary; Joe Picciano, F. U. M secretary

"Trustees: Louis Egidi, Gerardo Palombo, Camillio Iacovelli, Enrico Antonelli and Antonio Ancona."

"Masters of ceremonies: Paul Santodonato, Cesar Arcangeli, F. Desanctis, member benefactor.

"In a fine program-booklet which the lodge has published in connection with the celebration, high tribute is paid to George F. Johnson and George W. Johnson, who have done much for the Sons of Italy. Of George F. the lodge says:

"He is the real and true philanthropist of this community; and he has always contributed to our welfare with his conspicuous donation, giving to us proof of this generous heart."

"He is the president of the great Endicott-Johnson Corporation in which are working over 16,000 people (and 2,000 of them are Italians), whom he has ever helped in their need. ..., his great soldier of the shoe industry shall never be forgotten by the soldiers of the World War; he donated \$450,00 to the American Legion for the erection of the posts in Binghamton, NY, Johnson City, NY and Endicott, NY. "

"But his generosity has no restrictions nor racial prejudice for he loves all the honest, sincere and efficient workers. So he once more manifested the greatest of his heart and open-handedly he contributed toward the building of the Temple in Endicott, NY for the "Sons of Italy" Loggia Duca Degli Abruzzi, No. 443. He donated to said Lodge \$10,000 in cash and \$10,000 in Italian bonds carrying a dividend of 6½ per annum for the maintenance of the new temple."

**(Due to the poor quality of the old newspapers, some names were difficult to read. Our apologies if some of the names are incorrect.)**

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## **MAY 9, 2024 CELEBRATED THE 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF THE LODGE BUILDING**

Endicott Bulletin - May 13, 2024 LODGE GRAND OPENING

### **HUNDREDS MAKE SONS OF ITALY CELEBRATION BIG SUCCESS**

May 9, 1924: "Despite the stormy weather on Friday, the dedication of the Sons of Italy Temple was a spectacular success, and many hundreds of persons took part in the celebration. In the afternoon the grand opening was held and at night there was a great banquet and dance.

"George F. Johnson was an honor(ed) guest in the afternoon, and his was the duty of formally opening the temple.

"The automobile bearing Mr Johnson and his son, George W. Johnson to the ceremonies, was met at Oak Hill Avenue by the George W. Johnson Band and the members of Duca Degli Abruzzi Lodge No. 443, Sons of Italy. Between a double column of the members, and headed by the band and high officers of the local, state and national orders, the Johnson car was led to the doors of the temple in Odell Avenue.

"Here Mr. Johnson opened the doors to the temple and all marched into the auditorium. Anthony Nardini, chairman of the building committee, acted as master of ceremonies and introduced the chairman of the afternoon, Rev. Lusci, who introduced Mr. Johnson by pointing to a picture of him under which were the words, "Our Benefactor".

"'No expression of mine could serve to introduce the speaker, better than these two words,' he said. As Mr. Johnson stepped forward to speak, everyone in the hall arose and cheered.

Mr. Johnson went on to praise the organization about the fact that the Temple had already been paid for and encouraged everyone to also try to keep themselves out of debt.

"Giovanni di Silvestre, supreme venerable of the national order accepted the building on behalf of the National Order. He requested the permission of Mr. Johnson to propose his name for honorary members in the order.

"He was followed by Louis Cucca, a brilliant New York City attorney, representing Salvator Cotille, former State Senator and present grand venerable of the New York State Sons of Italy.

"A feast was served at 7 o'clock in the dining room of the clubhouse. Besides the honored guests, the members of the building committee and a few invited friends attended.

"Following the dinner a reception and dance was held in the auditorium. The Kings of Melody Orchestra of Binghamton played for the dinner and the dance which followed.

"The Sons of Italy Lodge gave to George F. Johnson a very beautiful basket of roses and carnations."



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County Legislators**

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**MATT PASQUALE**  
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