**General Dinner Business Meeting – July 23rd – Meeting Minutes**

* Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance
* Presentation & Approval of 03/27/25 Meeting minutes
* Presentation & Approval of Treasurer’s Report
* **Membership Report**
	+ 1 New Member application received, voted, and approved: Mark Ellsworth (that brings it to 5 new members for this year to date)
* **Scholarship Report**: 3 applications received; Nicholas Carlini (sponsor Fred Dearden); Giovanni Conte (sponsor Jeanne & Donald Shiarappa); Angela Hughes (sponsor Tom & Barbara Frascella). Scholarship Chair Jerry DeLorenzo sent a letter on behalf of President Tom Frascella congratulating them and inviting them to the Christmas/Scholarship Luncheon in December to accept their award.
* **2025 Events:**
	+ - **Sunday, April 27th**:  Kelsey Theater - the production of ANYTHING GOES was enjoyed by 15 members/friends and some joined together for dinner together afterwards.
		- **Friday, August 8th**: Somerset Patriots Baseball Game (the Double AA NY Yankees Affiliate team) 7:00 pm TD Bank Ballpark, 1 Patriots Park, Bridgewater, NJ. $15.00 per person. 23 tickets sold to date. Still time to get tickets by emailing pbruno02@gmail.com Fireworks and **Italian Heritage Night** – enjoy a night celebrating Italian culture, food and music.
		- **Saturday, August 16th**: Our Lady of Pierno Mass/Dinner – 4:00 pm Mass St. Joachim’s Church, followed by dinner at Padrino’s Restaurant in Hamilton. $30 per person to attend dinner. Please send checks to PO Box 9328 Trenton NJ 08650 to pay and reserve your spot. We need all reservations in by August 12th. (please note Padrino’s is no longer BYOB, they have a full service bar now). The descendants of San Fele from around the world have been celebrating this feast for nearly 1000 years and we are happy to join them in carrying on this tradition honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary. We hope many of you will attend and celebrate this tradition with us. Email pbruno02@gmail.com or call Rose Stia at 609-588-0290 for info and/or reservations.
		- **Sunday, September 14th**: Grounds for Sculpture Outing; we have purchased 15 tickets for a 1:00 pm tour. Tickets are $17. To date we have sold 10 tickets. If you wish to join us with the five tickets we have available, please email or call the contacts above for info/reserv. (15 tickets is our limit)
		- **Saturday, November 8th**: General Business Meeting/Luncheon – 12 noon – Villa Maria Restaurant Hamilton – email will follow with details and rsvp date.
		- **Sunday, December 7th**: 123rd Anniversary/Christmas Luncheon – 1:00 pm Mercer Oaks, West Windsor, NJ - flyer for reservations will be mailed to all members later in the year.
		- **2025-2026 Dues:** Everyone should have received their annual dues renewal letter. We are asking that all dues ($30) be sent by July 31st. If you have not already taken care of this, we ask you to do so as soon as possible. Mail to PO Box 9328 Trenton NJ 08650

 **Society Logo Items**

 Lapel Pins: available for purchase if you wish to replace the one you received at an earlier time,

 $5.00 each, please email pbruno02@gmail.com with your purchase request.

 Collared shirts/hats: We are looking into purchasing these items that would have the society’s logo

 Imprinted on them. There is a minimum order so please let us know if you are interested in any of

 these items. We can place a bulk order if we have enough interest.

* + **Correspondence**: Thank you cards received from: the Scarpati family for the Mass Card for John Scarpati; from the American Kidney Fund for our donation of $100 given in memory of Bryan Howard, the son of member Janet Howard who passed away recently.
	+ **Remarks**:
		- Gilda Rorro noted that the Italian Festival will be held this year on October 4th and 5th under the auspices of the MCIAFA at Mercer County Park. You can find more details on their website and Facebook page.
		- Gilda will be having a meeting with her committee on Thursday, July 31st with an update on the restoration of the Christopher Columbus Statue. An update will be provided after that.
		- Gilda met with Hamilton Mayor Jeff Martin and he has graciously offered the use of Veterans’ Park again this year on Monday, October 13th for the traditional Flag-Raising Commemorative Ceremony for Columbus Day. The event will take place from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. This is an opportunity for all of us to show pride in our Italian heritage. We hope many of you will make **every effort** to attend.
	+ **President’s Remarks**:
		- Tom Frascella commented on the progress he’s making in his articles. He just completed Article #2 of 6. They were emailed out to the membership and will be posted on the website. If you have not received them via email, that means we do not have your email address. Please forward it to us so that you can receive these articles. Once all 6 articles are complete, he plans on combining them together in one portfolio.
		- For the meeting in November, Tom plans on presenting some preliminary information (dates/prices) for a trip to San Fele & Southern Italy in 2027 to coincide with the 125th anniversary of the founding of our San Felese Society.
* **Dinner/50/50/Adjournment**