

Press Release – for Immediate Release

February 24, 2021

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Reference: Wolves Club Den 11; February 2021 Meeting held at the Ellwood City Historical Society

Wolves Club Honored by the Ellwood City Italian American Heritage Foundation



L-R: John Biondi ECI AHF member presenting an appreciation plaque honoring the Wolves Club, Mike DeOtto Wolves Club president, and 50 year Wolves Club members: Carl Agostinelli, John Maielli Sr. and Dr. Anthony DiBiagio.

The *Ellwood City Italian American Heritage Foundation*, at the February Wolves Club meeting, honored the organization with an appreciation plaque in recognition for all they have done and continue to do for our community.

Mr. Biondi, while presenting the recognition plaque, on behalf of the ECI AHF remarked; *'it is with tremendous gratitude, pride, and admiration that we honor the Ellwood City Wolves Club Den II for over seven generations of support and service to our community'*.

Organized in 1948 by a handful of Italian immigrant businessmen, the Wolves Club has been synonymous with providing scholarship to students in the Ellwood City and Riverside School Districts. Their leadership has also resulted in the highly successful July Festival and Oktoberfest fund raising initiatives that help subsidize many other community project involvements.

Wolves Club Honored by the Ellwood City Italian American Heritage Foundation**Press Release – for immediate release – continued****February 24, 2021**

There is an identical thread defining both the Wolves Club and the ECIAHF that focuses on honoring and celebrating the lives, lessons and legacies of our Italian-American ancestors, with the hope of inspiring future generations through their example.

Mike DeOtto, president of the Wolves Club, conducted the meeting touching on the scholarship program, and several fund raising initiatives including the present *March Cash & Golf Calendar Raffle*. He also mentioned and pondered how both the Ellwood City Arts, Crafts, Food & Entertainment Festival, booked for July 2 – 4 and the Fall Oktoberfest (sponsored by the Wolves, Lions and Rotary Clubs) will be affected by the pandemic.

The meeting was held at the Ellwood City Area Historical Society. Everett Bleakney, president of the society presented an *Ellwood City Diamond Jubilee* film depicting all the numerous events that occurred during the summer of the 1967 jubilee year. The interesting film and excellent presentation featured a street carnival, a grand ball, various church services, musical concerts, fireworks displays, and several parades including the main *Diamond Jubilee Parade* featuring lots of floats, classic cars and marching bands. In appreciation the Wolves membership made a monetary donation to the historical society for hosting their February meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

John Biondi, Wolves Club Historian

Cc: Mike DeOtto, Cosmo Morabito, Tom Yoho, Gene Morabito, JB file.