



## *“The Roar of the Lion”*

Jennifer Rubé, editor  
April 2012

### SPECIAL PRESENTATION!



Senator Joe Robach

Senator Joe Robach has asked to attend our April 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Meeting to make a special presentation to the our membership in honor of our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Senator Robach had a resolution drafted in March which was adopted by the senate on March 27<sup>th</sup> recognizing the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our lodge and the work we have done in the Italian American Community.

### FIVE GUYS FUNDRAISER

Join fellow lodge members on Wednesday May 23<sup>rd</sup> at Five Guys restaurant in Henrietta. Sister Susan has arranged a fundraiser for Autism where 20% of all our purchases will be donated back to the lodge for us to donate to Autism. Not only does this cover lodge member purchases but anyone that walks in and says they are part of the fundraiser will also have 20% of their purchases added.

During this event we will be handing out information about the Sons of Italy to customers walking in for dinner and we will have some of our lodge cookbooks on sale.

Come spend a nice spring evening with us and grab a delicious burger as an added bonus!

### CALABRESE SUNDAY DINNER

Join family and friends on Sunday April 29<sup>th</sup> for our second annual Italian regional dinner at Cibi! This year Sister Rosita will be cooking a delicious chicken dinner from Calabria. The menu includes:

#### **Antipasti**

##### **Pasticcio di Spinachi e Uova**

*crustless pie of spinach & eggs*

##### **Formaggio Crotonese e Salami Sopressata**

*Sheeps milk cheese & salami Sopresata*

##### **Olive Verde Schiacciate**

*Cracked green olives dressed with oregano and hot peppers*

#### **IL Primo**

##### **Maccheroni con Sugo di Costate di Maile**

*Cut pasta dressed with tomato & pork rib sauce*

#### **IL Secondo**

*Served with Italian bread*

##### **Costate di Maile e Polpette di Tacchino**

*The meats from our ragu include chunks of country pork ribs and small meatballs of ground turkey, eggplant & pecorino cheese.*

#### **Pollo alla Calabrese**

*Chicken roasted with potatoes, tomato, onions and peas*

*The juices of chicken thighs & legs, tossed with slivered onion, chopped tomato, oregano & olive oil, infuse the sliced potatoes roasting among them.*

#### **InsalataVerde**

*Salad of romaine lettuce, dressed with salt, vinegar & olive oil*

#### **Dolce, Café e Té**

*Sweets, coffee and tea*

#### **Pan di Spagna e Gelato con Salsa di Fichi**

*Sponge cake served with ice cream, fig sauce, and laced with rum*



**VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE #2270**  
71 Cohasset Drive  
Rochester, New York 14618



April 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

**OFFICERS**

**President**

Joseph A. Rubé, M.D.

**Vice-President**

Jennifer Rubé

**Recording Secretary**

Bonnie Cottone

**Corresponding Secretary**

Ann Vazzana

**Financial Secretary**

Susan Berta

**Treasurer**

Nancy Rubé

**Orator**

Louis DeCarolis

**Master of Ceremony**

Ross Cottone

Shirley Sculli

**Sentinel**

Thomas Vazzana

**Trustees**

Linda Agnello

William Agnello

Salvatore Cutaia

Mary Delman

Antonio Palucci

**Immediate Past President**

Joseph A. Vazzana

**Chaplain**

Ann Vazzana

**Chaplain Emeritus**

Sister Carole Proia

**Lodge Deputy**

Anthony Idoni

**District VIII State Trustee**

Joseph Berta

I'm not sure that "Winter" is truly behind us but I, for one, have found the run of warm weather here in Rochester a stimulant to get out and be more active and to approach all other activities with more enthusiasm than usual. April brings us Easter and blooming flowers (hopefully not negatively affected by the current cold spell). An excellent pamphlet entitled "Italian Customs and Traditions for Easter" was produced by OSIA's Garibaldi-Meucci Museum and explains how Easter is celebrated in Italy and, of course, the food. I remember it well when I was young and how much bringing the family together and sharing the abundance of food including lamb and the Colomba (the Easter Dove, traditional cake) confirming that all the deprivations and sacrifices of Lent were over.

As mentioned in last month's letter, we've remained very busy reviewing the multiple resources provided by several members to put together a special edition of our newsletter for June celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and bringing together material for our Lodge Archives. My thanks goes out to all who have provided the material. We also appreciate Sister Eunice and her Honoree Committee for reviewing nominees for this year's Columbus Day Dinner Dance and will provide the names of those chosen at our April 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly meeting. Speaking of that meeting we will have a special guest, Senator Joe Robach, who will present to our Lodge a formal proclamation recognizing our Lodge's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and its contributions to our Community. This will be done at the beginning of the meeting so please arrive early – we are expecting a full house and we have, as you know limited seating space. We could use some help from members setting up the meeting room. Thank you in advance to anyone that can be there around 6:30PM to help with this.

Sister Jennifer has been working diligently in her role as membership Chair and currently has several new member applications coming in for approval in this next month or two. She is also preparing for the upcoming State Convention sales of Italian/OSIA clothing and other things as well as for the Festa Italiana here in Rochester at the IACC in July.

I was told that the Festa della Repubblica this year will take place on June 3<sup>rd</sup> instead of June 2<sup>nd</sup> due to a conflict at the IACC. Those of us attending the Convention that weekend will hopefully be able to be back in town to participate in this very special Italian Festa. The cost of this community event (food) will be shared by all the Italian clubs. I encourage as many of our members to attend this event, wearing, if you have one, a shirt with the OSIA logo on it and your pin. Anyone who wants to purchase an OSIA shirt please contact Sister Jennifer at 381-5540 – lodge members get a 20% discount off the selling price.

I close as always with our thoughts and prayers for those who have been ill, lost a loved one, and for all our service men and women. BUONA PASQUA a tutti.

Fraternally,

Joe Rubé (President)

*Visit our website at [www.sonsofitalyrochester.com](http://www.sonsofitalyrochester.com)*

# VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

## OSIA FUNDRAISERS

### MUSEUM

#### The Garibaldi- Meucci Museum

#### Recognition Walkway

Brick Program

Bricks are available for:  
\$100 - \$250 - \$1000

Calling the Museum at  
  
718-442-1608

### COKE BOTTLE CAPS

We are still looking for bottle caps from all Coca Cola products. We redeem these for products that can be raffled off at our events throughout the year. Last year's bottle caps were redeemed for the MP3 Player that was raffled off at the Valentine Fundraiser.

### INK CARTRIDGES

Thank you to everyone who has brought us empty ink and toner cartridges. Redeeming these has cut the cost of printing our newsletters almost in half for 2011. If you have any empties to redeem please bring them to the next meeting or call Jennifer at 381-5540.

### NYS GRAND LODGE

#### \$100 Raffle Tickets!

1<sup>st</sup> Prize = \$20,000

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize = \$5,000

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize = \$2,000 (2)

4<sup>th</sup> Prize = \$1,000 (3)

5<sup>th</sup> Prize = \$500 (5)

Drawing will take place  
on  
Saturday June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012

Winner need not be  
present.

Contact President Joe  
For tickets at 461-1181

Tickets will be available  
at the April and May  
meetings.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Senator Joe Robach announced that this year, the Italian-American State Legislators Conference will be awarding \$1,500 scholarships to four current or future college students from New York State. Eligibility will be based upon the student's grade point average, interest in pursuing a higher education, involvement in the local community as well as individual financial need.

The Conference mission is to work hard to elevate and highlight Italian-American contributions to the State of New York and beyond, in all aspects of society, including literature, the arts, architecture and politics. The conference also tries to dispel negative stereotypes of Italian-Americans.

"Our conference is very proud of our role in promoting higher education and assisting students in reaching their academic goals and full potential for future success in our community," Senator Robach said.

Area students may request an application by contacting Senator Robach's office at (585) 225-3650.

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Now Available –

Vincent Lombardi Lodge's "*The Little Italian Cookbook*"  
\$8.00 each plus shipping if needed.

NYS Grand Lodge's "*Cucina Classica, Maintaining a Tradition*" and "*Cucina Classica II, The Legacy Continues*"  
\$15 each or the set of 2 for \$20 plus shipping if needed.

# VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

## MEMBERSHIPS in OSIA

We all know that the Order Sons of Italy in America organization is for Italian Americans who are proud of their Italian heritage and wish to promote it with family and friends. Did you know that there is also a social membership for people who aren't fortunate enough to have Italian roots but who still believe in promoting the culture and heritage? Maybe they grew up in an Italian neighborhood and longed for the simple lives of the hard-working people around them.

If you know of someone, of Italian descent or not, who might enjoy joining our lodge and celebrating the Italian American culture, please let us know. We have informative brochures that we can send out so that people know more about what OSIA is and stands for. For more information or for a membership application please contact Jennifer Rubé at 381-5540 or [jennajlr@aol.com](mailto:jennajlr@aol.com).

If you are recommending someone for membership, please make sure you either sign their application as sponsor or contact Jennifer to let her know.

## AROUND TOWN



At our last meeting, our membership decided to donate a dozen copies of our lodge cookbook to WXXI for their annual auction. Board Member, Louis DeCarolis recently made the presentation.

President Joe, Sister Jennifer and Sister Elizabeth met with the staff at the Pluta Cancer Center to present the donations raised at the February Valentine's Dinner.



## MEMBER DIRECTORY

Please add the following new members to your 2012 Membership Directory:

Ralph Doerr MD  
81 Deer Run  
Williamsville, New York 14221  
716-689-8086

Assunta (Sunni) Povero  
8 Blandford Lane  
Fairport, New York 14450  
585-264-0203

Marilyn Sarkis  
59 Huxley Way  
Fairport New York 14450  
585-478-7751

Eileen Wozniak  
81 Deer Run  
Williamsville, New York 14221  
716-689-8086

## DONATIONS

Every year our lodge elects to donate money to specific charities at the New York State Convention in June. These are lodge donations that come from the money we raise during our various activities during the year. If you would like to make a personal donation to any of the charities that OSIA supports, please contact President Joe. He will be happy to make that donation for you at this year's convention. Charities include Autism, Alzheimer's, Cooley's Anemia, Gift of Sight, Cancer Research, Arthritis, Parkinson's and more. You can see the list on the national OSIA site at [www.osia.org](http://www.osia.org).

# VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- **April 5<sup>th</sup>** – 7:00PM OSIA Board Meeting at Casa Italiana (info: 461-1181)
- **April 12<sup>th</sup>** – 7:00PM OSIA General Assembly Meeting at Casa Italiana (info: 461-1181)
- **April 13<sup>th</sup>** – 7:00PM Joe Capogreco's 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at Mario's (tickets: Jennifer 381-5540)
- **April 29<sup>th</sup>** – 4:30PM – A Calabrese Dinner at Cibi delizioso. Please return your RSVP form ASAP.
- **May 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Five Guys Fundraiser – see enclosed flyer.
- **May 31 – June 3<sup>rd</sup>** – NYSOSIA Convention at Villa Roma
- **July 20 – 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Festa Italiana – more info to follow
- **August 11<sup>th</sup>** – Summer Picnic – more info to follow
- **October 20<sup>th</sup>** – Christopher Columbus Dinner Dance – 6:30PM at Midvale Country Club – Come help us celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our lodge's charter. More info to follow.

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

04/01 Ted DeSoto  
04/10 Angela Amato  
04/14 Bonnie Cottone  
04/17 Edmund Calvaruso  
04/26 Peter Maddalena  
04/29 Sunni Povero



## AVIS CAR RENTAL DISCOUNTS

OSIA has a new promotion for discounts on AVIS Auto Rentals.

Receive \$20 off a weekly rental or one free Weekend Day.

Contact President Joe at 461-1181 if you would like these coupons.

## Our lodge can be found online!

Check out our lodge website at [www.sonsofitalyrochester.com](http://www.sonsofitalyrochester.com) or look for us on Facebook by searching for **Sons of Italy Rochester NY**. You can visit the NY State Grand Lodge website at [www.nyosia.org](http://www.nyosia.org) and the National Supreme Lodge at [www.osia.org](http://www.osia.org).

## NEW MEMBERS

We are always looking for new members to bring into our lodge. Think about family, friends and co-workers who might enjoy joining our group and promoting our Italian heritage.

## SUNSHINE CORNER

If you know of any of our lodge members who are ill or could use cheering up, please let Corresponding Secretary, Sister Ann Vazzana know at 224-8907.

## REFRESHMENTS

We are looking for volunteers to bring refreshments to our General Assembly meetings. You're welcome to partner up with another member if you want to.

Ideas: cake, cupcakes, brownies, cookies, fresh cut up fruit, sheet pizza or anything else you wish to bring.

If you'd like to bring refreshments to the next meeting, please give Sister Ann Vazzana a call at 224-8907. Thank you to all our volunteers as this is one more thing that keeps expenses down for the lodge.

From the....

# SONS OF ITALY BLOGGER

*In honor of this month's Calabrese regional dinner at Cibi, I've pulled some interesting information from the national Sons of Italy website about the traditions of this area. The author is Lisa Fantino of the Wanderlust Women Travel website.*

## THE MALOCCHIO

One thing that is taught from an early age is all about the *malocchio*, "the evil eye." Southern Italians swear that this curse may herald the end of the world if placed upon you by another. Their answer to repel such cursed maladies is the gorni or horn. You've all seen it, that singular horn that is everywhere from men who wear the charmed amulets around their necks to nonnas who hang giant red gornis in their kitchens (along with the streghe or witches). As for me, mine was a gold one bestowed upon me the day I was born. All babies need extra protection, according to the Calabrese, *because they are the most vulnerable of all.*

Now, why would anyone give the malocchio to another? The answer is simple. It always has to do with envy or jealousy, from the elderly zia who curses the beautiful young women of the village, to the workers' wives who scorn the padrone who has all of the money.

Yet, there is nothing to fear because there are a host of remedies which have been around for hundreds of years and all of them seem to work. You can wear the gorni, especially if it's made from red coral because that's extra protection. You can bless yourself with the sign of the cross when you come within 50 yards of the person who has cursed you. You can spit on the ground at the mention of their name. You can wear the mano cornutta ("horned hand") around your neck because that essentially gives them the horns right back.

Lastly, you should know that you cannot truly prevent malocchio. It is all around us. Therefore, it is truly best to take precautions early:

1. Hang a bunch of skinny dried hot red pepper over your stove. They look like red horns and keep your kitchen safe.
2. Take a container of salt and sprinkle it everywhere. This is a must, from the corners of your new home so evil does not come in, to the trunk of your new car so blessings will always be with you.
3. And for added measure, just to make sure that the malocchio doesn't find you in your dreams.....there's the malocchio cloth, a giant piece of red material which should be placed between the floor and you, essentially between your mattress and boxspring, so that you will sleep soundly and safely.



The New York State Commission for Social Justice is looking into getting more recognition for Italian Heritage Month in local communities. Watch the Italian Civic League calendar for local events honoring Italian Heritage Month at [www.italiancivicleague.org](http://www.italiancivicleague.org).

# VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

## OSIA MAKES HISTORY!



A portion of Grand Street in New York City is re-named "Sons of Italy® Way" to mark the site where OSIA's founders first met at 203 Grand Street on June 22, 1905.

## EASTER TRADITIONS IN ITALY

### Florence - Scoppio del Carro

In Florence, Easter is celebrated with the Scoppio del Carro, explosion of the cart. A huge, decorated wagon is dragged through Florence by white oxen until it reaches Basilica di Santa Maria del Fiore in Florence's historic center. Following mass, the Archbishop sends a dove-shaped rocket into the cart, igniting the fireworks held in the cart. This spectacular display is followed by a parade in medieval costumes.

### La Madonna Che Scappa in Piazza - Abruzzo Region

Sulmona, in the Abruzzo region, celebrates Easter Sunday with La Madonna Che Scappa in Piazza. On Easter Sunday people dress in green and white, colors of peace, hope, and resurrection, and gather in the main piazza. The woman playing the Virgin Mary is dressed in black. As she moves to the fountain, doves are released and the woman is suddenly dressed in green. Music and feasting follow.

### Holy Week on the island of Sardinia

The island of Sardinia is a part of Italy steeped in tradition and a good place to experience festivals and holidays. Because of its long association with Spain, some Easter traditions are strongly linked to the Spanish Semanta Santa.

## ITALIAN TABLE ETIQUETTE

- Wait to sit down at the table until the hostess has been seated. Then you may follow.
- Follow the hostess' lead to determine when to eat. Either the hostess will instruct the guests to begin or she will just begin to eat herself.
- Observe the Continental dining style for holding your utensils. The knife should be held in the right hand and the fork in the left at all times. Holding your fork according to American customs will not be taken as an offense, but it may be noticed.
- Avoid putting your elbows on the table while eating.
- Keep your hands above the table during a meal. Do not rest them in your lap, as is customary in the U.S.
- Use your fork and knife to eat all foods, including fruit and cheese. Using your fingers to eat is considered rude in most situations. It is not uncommon for a whole piece of fruit to be eaten with a fork and a knife in Italy.
- Put your bread on the tablecloth beside your plate at casual dinners. Only formal dinners usually have a specific bread plate as part of the table setting.
- Avoid bumping into the people sitting next to you with your elbows while eating. Try to keep your elbows tucked in close to your body.
- Place your fork and knife together diagonally across your plate to indicate that you are finished and your plate can be removed.
- Wait until the hostess leaves the table at the end of a meal to leave the table yourself.

# HAPPY 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

Thank you to everyone that has generously given us lodge records and memorabilia. Yesterday we returned home to find four boxes with a lot of lodge related items at the door, generously brought to us by Brother Lou Giambra's family. In the boxes we found lots of photographs, financial records from when Jean Giambra was the lodge's financial officer, awards, pins, certificates and so much more. Brother Lou seems to have saved EVERYTHING! There are even pads full of notes that he took at meetings, conventions and thoughts he had written down that seem to have been for his upcoming president's letters.

He had lots of memorabilia from his years as a Grand Lodge officer including souvenirs from the Grand Lodges of many other states that he got to visit, past conventions, ceremonies, meetings, etc.

Sister Mary Ricci has told us she also has many lodge related items that she wants to give to us and Sister Angie Parise has given us more from her years in the lodge. We have photo albums from Sister Shirley Sculli and lots of other photos.

We have also heard that the Italian Civic League has records indicating at least five Sons of Italy lodges in existence in Rochester in 1934 and Brother Vince Giannantonio has promised to get copies of these records for us so that we can investigate further.

All of these records will help us piece together the history of the Sons of Italy organization in our area. We are going to need help identifying people in many of the photographs so please let President Joe know if you would like to help with this project.

Thank you to Sister Marisa Rubé and Brother Tom Meleca who have offered to scan pictures for us to use in newsletters and on the website. Thanks also to Brother Louis DeCarolis who has given us all the pictures he has taken at lodge events over the years. We will get all of these photos printed and put them into albums to preserve them for the future of our lodge. Again, we will need help identifying people in the photos.

Maybe someday in the future one of our members will write a book about the lodge and its place in Rochester's Italian American history. We certainly have enough photos, letters and memorabilia to get a good start on one.

If you would like to help with organizing the lodge archives, please contact President Joe at 734-6085 or 461-1181.