



# The Roar of the Lion

Jennifer Rubé, editor  
October/November 2013

## 14<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL TURKEY RAFFLE DINNER

This year's Annual Turkey Raffle Dinner will be Thursday November 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30PM at St Cecelia's. More information is available on the enclosed flyer.

This event is held every year in honor of Sister Jen's father who was a member of the Columbus Lodge of The Sons of Italy in Dunkirk New York many years ago. It is a fun event where you can invite friends, family, co-workers etc for a family-friendly event.



This year we will be entertained by the Roc City Singers under the direction of internationally recognized director, Judith Ranaletta. We will also be joined by New York State President Joseph Rondinelli who will be visiting from Long Island.

## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

Thanks to Brothers Ross, Vince and Tom, we have the date and time set for our annual Christmas dinner.



This year's dinner will be held on **Saturday December 21<sup>st</sup>** (there was an error on the original flyer) at the Grapevine Restaurant in East Rochester. Please check out the enclosed flyer for the menu and other information.

This restaurant was picked for several reasons including that there is plenty of parking next door in the Technoplex Mall parking lot, they are handicap accessible and they have a large party room for us to use that holds at least 65 people.

## ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE AWARDS DINNER



Congratulations to District I State Trustee Lou Gallo on winning our 50/50 raffle at last month's Italian American Heritage Awards Dinner.

The dinner was a big success with a lot of fun and good times with members, friends, honorees and their guests. Check out the pages in this newsletter for pictures as well as our Facebook page.

Soon we will begin looking for a venue for next year's dinner event. If you know of a place that will hold at least 200 people comfortably, is handicap accessible and serves good food, please contact President Jenn at 381-5540 so that the committee can add it to their list. Thank you to everyone that helped to make this year's dinner such a success.

## WINTER PICNIC/CLAM BAKE

Last year's picnic and clam bake was the highlight of our winter social calendar. We had approximately 80 members, friends and family join us for a clam bake like no other. Approximately 200 dozen clams were enjoyed along with a fully catered buffet dinner.

This year we have tentatively scheduled the event for Saturday February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 and it will be held at St. Jude Church in Gates. The hall will hold almost 200 people with plenty of room, comfortable seating and loads of fun. Watch upcoming newsletters for more information and pass the word to friends and family. Once the forms come out, please get your RSVPs in quickly so we can track clams

All Vincent Lombardi Lodge communications should be sent to President Jenn Rubé at:

92 Gleason Circle, East Rochester NY 14445 – (585) 381 - 5540 - jennajlr@aol.com



**VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE #2270**  
92 Gleason Circle  
East Rochester, New York 14445



**OFFICERS**

**President**

Jennifer Rubé

**Vice-President**

Vincent Giannantonio

**Recording Secretary**

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**Financial Secretary**

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Luigi DiFilippo

Thomas Meleca

Sandra Meleca

Antonio Palucci

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Joseph Rubé, MD

**Chaplain**

Ann Vazzana

**District VIII State Trustee**

Anthony DiCostanzo

**Chaplain Emeritus**

Sister Carole Proia

**Lodge Deputy**

Anthony Idoni

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

October 2013

First, my apologies for this newsletter being so late. I have been working to get the Souvenir Journal printed in time for our Italian-American Heritage Awards Dinner and couldn't take on both projects at the same time.

Recently, I had the opportunity to take a few days off and head "home" to the Jersey Shore. Everyone has a special place where they can go to relax and Long Beach Island fills that need for me. It was almost a year ago that Superstorm Sandy pounded the east coast doing unimaginable damage. I had watched it live from home thanks to the internet and people's need to capture everything and put it on YouTube and I wondered how bad the island would look when I got there. It wasn't as bad as I thought because residents have worked so hard to get the island habitable for the summer tourist season but you could still see the damage if you were familiar with what it had looked like before.

Driving down the island, seeing vacant lots where homes used to stand, empty stores where business owners weren't able to bounce back and reopen and damages to the coastline made me start thinking about what had been lost. Not just the structures but the history. Perfect example – there is a project going on where volunteers are restoring family photos for people whose photo archives were soaked during the storm. There is another group that has formed online and they've posted all the pictures that were gathered up, literally on the streets, so that people can go through them and see if any of their own pictures have been found. Craigslist and Ebay are full of people looking for rightful owners of things found after the storm – family bibles, christening or wedding gowns, pieces of china, jewelry and so much more.

Turn that around and think of what objects you have from your ancestors. Family papers, special clothing, a piece of jewelry, a wedding photo album. Are you the only one left that knows the history? Start writing things down for your children and grandchildren. If you have one photo album of wedding pictures and three grandchildren, make copies now and give them to them for an upcoming special occasion. You don't think any of your grandchildren would ever want to wear your wedding dress? Find a seamstress and have teddy bear wedding outfits made from your dress. Do you have Grandma's old fur stole – gasp – someone actually wore real fur???? Have teddy bears made from the old family furs and give them out to your family members. There is so much that you can do but the key is to do it now and not wait until it's too late. By doing it now you can share the history with your family.

November 2013

Now that the big dinner is over and was such a success, we move forward into the Holiday season. In our lodge that means a Turkey Raffle Dinner in November and Christmas Dinner in December. **NEXT PAGE>>>>**

# VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

CONTINUED>>> This year we will be honored to host New York State President Joseph Rondinelli for the Turkey Raffle Dinner. This will be President Joe's first visit to our lodge and I really want him to see why I'm so proud of our lodge. We usually get around 70 people for this event and many of them are not from our lodge. This year I would like to fill the room (100+?) and really celebrate the beginning of the Holiday Season with friends and family. We are going to be entertained by the internationally recognized Show Choir Director, Judith A. Ranaletta's "RocCity Singers" so please consider bringing your family members, friends, neighbors or co-workers.

If you have anyone who has inquired about joining the lodge, if at all possible see if they can submit their application by Thanksgiving and be ready for initiation at the final meeting of the year in December. I'd like to get everyone signed up and on the membership rolls with the Grand Lodge before the end of the year if possible.

From my home to yours, I wish you all a very happy holiday season with all the blessings of friends, family and fun. Please keep our elderly members in mind as the colder weather approaches and check on them once in a while, even if just to say hello. As always, please keep those protecting our freedom around the world in your thoughts and prayers.

Fraternally,

President Jenn

One of the issues that the Order Sons of Italy in America (OSIA) takes very seriously is preserving Italian language courses in school districts. The Commission for Social Justice (CSJ) is the branch of OSIA that steps in when they hear that a school district is planning to drop Italian and they organize with local residents to take a stand against these actions. There is a lot of power and persuasion behind an organization that is as large and as strong as ours.

I was recently notified that the Greece School District is planning to drop Italian language from their curriculum and instead they will funnel 7th and 8th grade students into Spanish and American Sign Language classes. When there aren't any students in 7th and 8th grade taking Italian it is easy to say the language isn't needed in High School and that makes the district's argument to drop the language completely an easy one. I put the person who contacted me in touch with NYS CSJ Chairman Lou Gallo and there is now a plan forming for us to protest the loss of our ancestral language in the Greece School District. We've been told that 30% of the students in Greece are of Italian descent. Franca Cinelli and other teachers and residents are organizing this and are asking for help.

Where do you come in? If you are a resident of Greece and registered to vote in their elections and you would be willing to speak at an upcoming board meeting, please let me know right away and I will put you in touch with the person organizing that part. If you have family in Greece who would be interested in getting involved, that would be great too. For the rest of us, we are looking for people willing to show up at the board meeting on November 12th in support of those who will be speaking on behalf of this mission. It is important that our involvement be seen as representing OSIA which is a national organization with over 650,000 members of Italian heritage and we have to be polite and professional. The more people who can attend this upcoming board meeting the better! Numbers talk - numbers are what the district is using to say that there aren't enough students interested in Italian in their district - so let's show them that our numbers speak LOUDLY!

If you would like to get involved, please contact me as soon as possible. If you belong to another organization that you think would be willing to get involved please pass this information along and have someone contact me so that I can put them in touch with the right people. This is not an OSIA battle - this is one for all Italian Americans in the fight to keep our heritage alive. President Jenn

# VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

## BIRTHDAYS

### OCTOBER

10/01 Ann Vazzana  
10/11 Vincent Giannantonio  
10/13 Joe Yonda  
10/14 Anthony Strati  
10/17 Thomas Ferraro  
10/21 Philip Dattilo  
10/21 Stacey Romeo  
10/21 Eugene Sisto  
10/30 Mary Delman



### NOVEMBER

11/01 Hon. Franklin D'Aurizio  
11/01 Hon. Joseph Valentino  
11/08 Dr. Joseph Polizzi  
11/11 Joshua Sisto  
11/13 Dennis Erbeta  
11/15 Patrick Sculli  
11/16 John Caselli  
11/25 Gino Romano  
11/29 Catherine Nuci

### December

12/08 Paul Cloffey  
12/09 Marisa Rubé  
12/09 Dr. Kenneth Nudo  
12/11 Chris Napoli  
12/15 James Vazzana  
12/17 MaryAnn Koons  
12/20 Jennie Gugino  
12/21 Patty Mattice  
12/22 Emma Ferlise  
12/23 Dr. Maurice Palucci  
12/26 Dr. Ralph Doerr

## NEW MEMBERS

Chris & Joanne Napoli  
707 Shanlee Drive  
Webster NY 14580  
(585) 872-1564

Ronald Santoli  
246 Wexford Place  
Webster NY 14580  
(585) 721-6220

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- **November 7<sup>th</sup>** – 7PM Council Meeting (info: Jenn 381-5540)
- **November 14<sup>th</sup>** – 7PM General Assembly Meeting at Casa Italiana (info: Jenn 381-5540)
- **November 21<sup>st</sup>** – 5:30PM at St Cecelia's - 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Papa Tony's Turkey Raffle Dinner (info: Jen Gugino 749-5002)
- **December 5<sup>th</sup>** - 7PM Council Meeting at Casa Italiana (info: Jenn 381-5540)
- **December 12<sup>th</sup>** - 7PM General Assembly Meeting at Casa Italiana (info: Jenn 381-5540)
- **December 21<sup>st</sup>** – 6PM Annual Christmas Dinner at The Grapevine Restaurant. (info: Jenn 381-5540) See enclosed flyer
- **January 2<sup>nd</sup>** - 7PM Council Meeting at Casa Italiana (info: Jenn 381-5540)
- **January 9<sup>th</sup>** - 7PM General Assembly Meeting at Casa Italiana (info: Jenn 381-5540)
- **February 22<sup>nd</sup>** - WINTER PICNIC & CLAM BAKE Preliminary date – watch for updates in the future.

## MEETING DIRECTIONS

Our lodge general assembly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Casa Italiana located on the Nazareth College Campus at 4245 East Avenue. The college is located about half a mile from the Village of Pittsford on Route 96/East Avenue. Enter the campus at the entrance with the traffic light (South Campus Drive).

Turn immediately into Parking Lot A on the right as you enter the campus. On the right you will note the Casa Hispana building and then the Casa Italiana building. Take the lower walk to the right of the building which leads directly to the meeting room. The meeting will begin at 7:00PM sharp and everyone is welcome. Please Note: the meeting room is handicapped accessible.

# VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

## REFRESHMENTS

We are looking for volunteers to bring refreshments to our General Assembly meetings. If you would like to bring refreshments to the next meeting, please contact Sister Nancy Rubé at 734-6251. Thank you to all of our volunteers as this is one more thing that helps keep expenses down for the lodge.

## COKE REWARDS CODES

We are still collecting bottle caps and rewards codes from all Coke products. The codes can be found inside the bottle caps or inside the cardboard boxes from canned drinks. We redeem these codes for points towards different items that we can use for raffles at lodge events. If you can't bring them to the next meeting, feel free to email the codes to Jennifer at [jennajlr@aol.com](mailto:jennajlr@aol.com) or call 381-5540.

## LODGE NEWS

Get well wishes go out to **Sister Anita Militello's** husband Joe after recent surgery.

Our best wishes go out to **Sister Marie DiGiacomo** who is currently staying at The Gables.

Our best wishes go out to **Sister Emma Ferlise** who was recently hospitalized.

Please keep our older members in mind as the seasons change and it is harder for them to get out to meetings and events. Sometimes a phone call or a note can brighten up the day more than we can imagine.

If you know of any lodge members who have been ill, had surgery or have lost a loved one, please contact Sister Ann Vazzana at 586-6266 or President Jenn at 381-5540. We also love to hear about positive things going on in our lodge!

## INK CARTRIDGES

Thank you to everyone that has brought us empty ink and toner cartridges this year. Redeeming these empties cut the cost of printing our newsletters by \$500 last year. This year our donated rewards points covered almost all of the printing for the Italian American Heritage Awards Dinner. They were a tremendous help in us realizing the profit that we did from this event.

If you have any empties to donate, please bring them to the next lodge meeting or lodge social event.

## IN MEMORIUM

DiNardo, Henry (Irondequoit/Penfield): September 23, 2013, age 91. Predeceased by his wife, Lillian (DiMino) and siblings. Survived by children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Per Henry's request all Services are to be private. The family would like to thank the staff of The Sunset House for their amazing care. Please consider donations to Sunset House, 3746 St. Paul Blvd., Rochester, NY 14617 in his memory.



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## Borrowed from the New York Times Blog Site

Few countries take their autumn harvests as seriously as Italy. Visit any hilltop town or small city on a weekend in October and you're likely to find a sagra, a gastronomic spectacle venerating pumpkins or chestnuts or just about any vegetable, nut or meat that's grown and produced regionally in fresh abundance. Sagre sometimes last all weekend and often culminate on Sunday with a celebratory feast. I recently visited Anguillara, a town built into the Sabatini hills around Lake Bracciano, near Rome, and the Sagra del Fungo was in full tilt. By 1 p.m. the parking lot hosting the festival was in a state of mushroom mania, with hundreds of people queuing up to try porcini sauces and spreads. There were other funghi — trucks pulled up to the event laden with golden chanterelles and purple and bronze flat-capped meadow mushrooms for sale — but porcini ruled the day, featuring prominently in most of the dishes served in mess-hall fashion beneath a giant white tent. If you're in Italy this fall, it's worth attending a sagra, if only to witness the unique customs of Italian food culture.



## MEMBERSHIP

If you know of anyone interested in joining our organization, please keep in contact with them and see if they would still like to join and if so, see if they would they be ready by December. We will have a final new member initiation meeting for 2013 in December so that we can get any new people onto the membership rolls before the end of the year.

This year we have about 16 or so new members already and we always have room for more. If you know of someone who might enjoy our organization, please let President Jenn know at [jennajlr@aol.com](mailto:jennajlr@aol.com) or by phone at 381-5540. She will be happy to send out information about our lodge.

## CONGRATULATIONS!



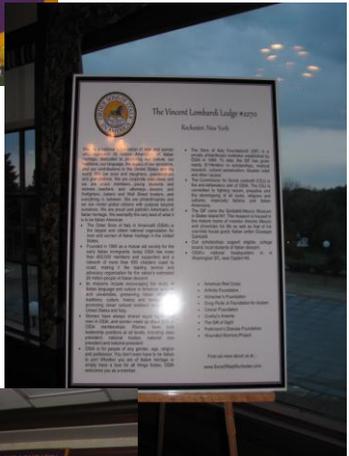
Congratulations to Brother Frank Oliveri who was recently inducted into the Wrestling Hall of Fame.



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