



The Roar of the Lion

Marisa Rubé, editor
December 2015

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we approach the end of 2015, it's time to reflect upon the events of the past year.

We started our year under new leadership, and we found a new venue for our meetings. We have inducted many new members (19) to the lodge and have had many memorable events along the way.



Every event organized this past year has been a success, from the holiday party in January, to our latest event in November, the Turkey Raffle. The effort from our members was admirable. We should be proud of all for their strong support of all we do. Thank you to everyone that helped carry these events to a successful conclusion.

By the time you receive this newsletter, Thanksgiving will have passed and Christmas will be arriving shortly. It is a time to spend with family and friends. Our lodge has become a family for many of our members, including myself, for which I am eternally grateful.

I look forward to the new year and surpassing our accomplishments of 2015!

At this time, I want to remind everyone of our Christmas party, December 19, at Lodge on the Green. Everyone is welcome, including all family and friends.

Don't forget our fundraiser pies from Leo's bakery make a great holiday dessert and gift. Pie orders need to be reserved by December 4th.

I want to wish all my brothers and sisters a very Merry Christmas and the best for a wonderful new year.

Buon Natalie e Felice anno nuovo!

Peace,
President Vince

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Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 Upcoming Events

December 3rd @ 7pm: Council Meeting
Eyer Building (317 Main Street, East Rochester)

December 10th @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting
Eyer Building (317 Main Street, East Rochester)

December 19th @ 1pm: Lodge Christmas Party
Lodge on the Green (2888 Ridgeway Avenue, Rochester)

January 7th, 2016 @ 7pm: Council Meeting
Eyer Building (317 Main Street, East Rochester)

January 14th, 2016 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting
Eyer Building (317 Main Street, East Rochester)

February 4th, 2016 @ 7pm: Council Meeting
Eyer Building (317 Main Street, East Rochester)

February 11th, 2016 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting
Eyer Building (317 Main Street, East Rochester)

February, Date TBD: Annual Winter Clambake



OSIA DISTRICT 1 Christmas Party

Friday, December 11th, 2015

7:30 pm-11:30 pm

at

Constantino Brumidi Lodge

\$45.00 / person

Complete Sit-Down Dinner

Salad, Rigatoni, Chicken Marsala,

Cannoli Cake, Pastry

Beer Wine and Soda on table

Cash Bar for liquor

Music by Rick C. Entertainment, Inc.

For Information and Tickets Contact Tom Bandisi 631-835-3181

For Information and Tickets Contact Laura Capano 631-757-8301

Make checks payable to OSIA District 1



**SONS OF ITALY
VINCENT LOMBARDI
LODGE
ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY**

**Saturday, December 19th,
2015
1pm-5pm
Lodge on the Green
2888 Ridgeway Ave, Rochester, NY 14626**

**Constantino Brumidi Lodge #2211
2075 Deer Park Avenue, Deer Park**

Breakfast with Santa
Sunday, December 13, 2015
9:30 AM to 11:30 AM

**Eggs, Pancakes, Sausage, Rolls,
Coffee, Tea, Juice & Milk**

**Donation: \$10 per person
Children 3 and under are FREE**

**Bring your camera
for pictures**

**Join us for Breakfast, Raffles,
Crafts and Fun!**

Tickets: Sabrina Savino 631-422-6934
Ross Dispineri 631-254-3015

**Merry
Christmas**

District 3 Christmas Party
Sunday, December 13, 2015 at 6:00 pm
Greis Park Recreation Center
55 Wilbur St., Lynbrook
\$30.00 pp
honoring
National 2nd VP Nancy DiFiore Quinn

**RSVP Mildred Mancusi - 516-359-1745
or mail your check to
Ernest Magliato
259 North Walnut Street
Massapequa, NY 11758**

**check made payable to
District 3 Presidents**



12/03 Mary Lou Cadena
12/04 Quintino DiCesare
12/06 Franca Cinelli
12/07 David DiNicola
12/08 Silvano Orsi
12/09 Marisa Rubé
12/09 Kenneth Nudo
12/11 Paolo Polignone

12/11 Charlene Dodgson
12/15 James Vazzana
12/15 Ezio Bonanni
12/17 Maryann Koons
12/20 Jennie Gugino
12/23 Maurice Palucci
12/26 Ralph Doerr



.....Br. Russ Gugino, continuing recovery at home from an illness.

....Br. Sam Mammano, recovering from a recent surgery.

A note from Sister Jen Gugino to all our brothers and sisters of the Vincent Lombardi Lodge:

On this Thanksgiving Eve, thoughts of all of you come to mind with appreciation and love. You have all been so wonderful and considerate to this family as we had adjustments to make, and overcome. All is going very well, I am feeling much better, and Russ is home and has definitely made improvement.

We all have situations that arise that no one can foresee, and the comforting touch of friends mean so much, and that is what all of you have done. Thank you for your cards, calls, and many ways of caring.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and all your loved ones. Looking forward to becoming active again in all you do. God is Good

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I want to thank all our members and friends who attended our Turkey Raffle event in November.

A special thank you to Jen Gugino who started this tradition so many years ago-we hope to carry it on thru the years...

I also want to thank everyone that helped to keep things flowing smoothly during the evening. We had so much help, I hesitate to name names for fear of missing someone and leaving them out. You are all so special.

Thanks to all of you. Together we had a great evening ushering in the upcoming holidays.

Thank you,
Sister Sandy Meleca



Commission on Social Justice District 8 Chairperson: Br. Joe Rubé

As we come close to the end of the year we find that several of the current CSJ activities have been in the pipeline for several months. One of those is the effort in several states and communities to eliminate the Columbus Day holiday and replace it with "Indigenous Peoples Day". We most recently sent out a request to our District 8 members to address this issue in the Denver area. I would like to take a few excerpts from a letter written to the Denver government officials by our lodge member, Br. Silvano Orsi, which I believe expresses the feelings of most Italian Americans in our community and across the Country. Br. Silvano writes: "Italian Americans, and the U.S. population in general, have celebrated Columbus Day for many decades in our great nation, as a symbolic day of remembrance and cultural pride. The Columbus holiday has served as recognition for our culture's efforts, representing the time period when a noteworthy Italian settled our lands, bringing the European culture to America. Your proposed actions not only offend Italians, but all European culturesI consider it defamatory and/or quite disrespectful and inappropriate. I ask that you reconsider your motives and this proposed action to eliminate the Columbus Day holiday, and that you consider adding an Indigenous People's Day celebration to the calendar (apart from the Columbus Day weekend)...."

Another reappearing issue of concern is about Our Lady of Loreto Church in the Ocean Hill-Brownsville area. The CSJ is supporting keeping the building preserved. The church was built by the early Italian immigrants living in that neighborhood, and their families have great memories of their heritage. The church is a testament to Italian American pride. It has been proposed that the church be demolished. The State Landmarks Conservancy wants to preserve it and the NYS Office of Historic Preservation mandated that the diocese could build adjacent housing on the site as long as the church was not demolished. OSIA and CSJ hope that the demolition of this church never occurs.

On a local note – through the efforts of member Silvano Orsi, the i-Heart media president and account management team (95.1 FM) will be investing well over \$3000 in the 2016 Little Italy Festival in radio ads and online media advertising.

Another positive, thanks in part to our efforts, on November 24th, Yogi Berra was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Fraternally,
Brother Joe Rubé

REMINDER: YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES MUST BE PAID BY DECEMBER 31ST. Dues are \$50 for 2016, and you should have received an invoice in the mail. Please send your dues in asap to Br. Joe Rubé, 71 Cohasset Dr., Rochester, NY 14618

White House Press Release Nov 16, 2015

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, President Barack Obama named seventeen recipients of the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The Presidential Medal of Freedom is the Nation's highest civilian honor, presented to individuals who have made especially meritorious contributions to the security or national interests of the United States, to world peace, or to cultural or other significant public or private endeavors. The awards will be presented at the White House on November 24th.

President Obama said, "I look forward to presenting these 17 distinguished Americans with our nation's highest civilian honor. From public servants who helped us meet defining challenges of our time to artists who expanded our imaginations, from leaders who have made our union more perfect to athletes who have inspired millions of fans, these men and women have enriched our lives and helped define our shared experience as Americans."

The following individuals will be awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom:

Yogi Berra (posthumous)
Yogi Berra spent over 40 years as a professional baseball catcher, manager, and coach. Widely regarded as one of the greatest catchers in baseball history – and an all-time Yankee great – Berra was an 18-time All-Star and 10-time World Series Champion who was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1972. Always quick witted, Berra was famous for his "Yogi-isms," teaching us all that we can observe a lot just by watching. Berra was also a lifelong ambassador for inclusion in sports. Berra put his professional career on hold to join the Navy during World War II, where he fought with Allied forces on D-Day and eventually earned a Purple Heart.

**The press release goes on to list the other 16 awardees. See more at www.whitehouse.gov **

Italian Christmas Traditions

Italian traditions in Italy are based heavily on the religion of Christianity. Christmas starts eight days before Christmas and lasts till after the Feast of Epiphany. Musical salutes are made at the shrine of the Virgin Mary and songs are played at the homes of carpenters in honor of St. Joseph. Eight days before Christmas, a special *Novena* of prayers and church services begin. It all ends on Christmas Day. On December 23rd, sometimes earlier, children dressed as shepherds with sandals, leggings tied with crossing thongs, and wearing shepherds' hats, go from house to house playing songs on shepherds' pipes and giving recitations. They receive money to buy Christmas treats. In cities like Rome real shepherds sometimes carry out the performance. A strict fast is observed 24 hours before Christmas after which a meal with many dishes (but no meat) is served. The traditional Christmas dinner, *Cenone*, is made up of spaghetti and anchovies, an assortment of fish, fresh broccoli, tossed salad, fruits, and sweets.

A Yule log, the *Ceppo*, is burned, and toasts in wine and wishes for the future are expressed. The Urn of Fate, an old Italian tradition, is a large ornamental bowl that holds wrapped gifts for members of the family. When the family gets together, each member takes his turn at drawing a gift from the urn until all the presents are distributed.

The *presepio* (manger or crib) represents in miniature the Holy Family in the stable and is the center of Christmas for families. Guests kneel before it and musicians sing before it. The *presepio* figures are usually hand-carved and very detailed in features and dress. The scene is often set out in the shape of a triangle. This is a wooden frame arranged to make a pyramid several feet high. Several tiers of thin shelves are supported by this frame. It is entirely decorated with colored paper, gilt pine cones, and miniature colored pennants. Small candles are fastened to the tapering sides. A star or small doll is hung at the apex of the triangular sides. The shelves above the manger scene have small gifts of fruit, candy, and presents. The *ceppo* is in the old Tree of Light tradition which became the Christmas tree in other countries. Some houses even have a *ceppo* for each child in the family.

From the Castle of Saint Angelo in Rome a cannon is fired to proclaim the opening of the Holy Season. Each tries to outdo the other by displaying the biggest *presepio*.

Children in Italy hang up their stockings on the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6. They celebrate the visit of the Three Kings to Bethlehem. Instead of Santa Claus, children are expecting *Befana*. She is a witch-like character who rides around on a broom. The legend is that the Three Wise Men, *I re magi*, stopped at *Befana*'s hut to ask directions on their way to Bethlehem and asked her to join them. She said no, she was too busy. Later a shepherd asked her to join him in paying respect to the Baby Jesus. Again, *Befana* said no. Later when it was dark and she saw a great light in the skies, she thought perhaps she should have gone with the Wise Men. So, she gathered some toys that had belonged to her own baby, who had died, and ran to find the kings and the shepherd. But *Befana* could not find them or the stable. Now, each year she looks for the Christ Child. And each year since she can not find him, she leaves the gifts for the good children of Italy and pieces of charcoal for the bad ones..

No meat is eaten for twenty-four hours before Christmas Eve, but there follows a meal as big as the family can afford. A special New Year Banquet is eaten on the last day of the year, with raisin bread, turkey, chicken, rabbit, and spaghetti. Champagne is the drink of the evening.

information taken from
<http://christmas.com/html/italy.html>



2015 Christopher Columbus Italian American Heritage Awards Dinner



2015 Christopher Columbus Italian American Heritage Awards Dinner



2015 Christopher Columbus Italian American Heritage Awards Dinner



2015 Christopher Columbus Italian American Heritage Awards Dinner



2015 Christopher Columbus Italian American Heritage Awards Dinner



2015 Papa Antolini Turkey Raffle



President
Vincent Giannantonio
First Vice-President
Sandra Meleca
Second Vice-President
Thomas Meleca
Recording Secretary
Marisa Rubé
Financial Secretary
Joseph Rubé, MD
Treasurer
Louis DeCarolis
Orator
Bonnie Cottone
Mistress of Ceremony
Nancy Rubé
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Matthew Grosodonia
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Chaplain Emeritus
Sister Carole Proia
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Cosmo Caceci*
Michael La Comba*
Shirley Sculli
Phillip Dattilo
Joseph Berta
Joseph Rubé
Jennifer Rubé*



LODGE COMMUNICATIONS

All Vincent Lombardi Lodge communications should be sent to:

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