



The Roar of the Lion

Marisa Rubé Przepiora, editor
Summer Edition

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

President Sandy Meleca is slowly improving, and it will take time. With your thoughts and prayers, she will get there. This is where the words patients and patience are synonymous. It happens in its own time, so no matter how much we want to be there yesterday, more often than not, we have to go through the process. In accordance with the bylaws, when the president is unable to perform the duties and business associated with the office, the vice-president will take on any and all responsibilities until the president is able to resume those responsibilities. We will continue to focus on the core functions of the Lodge to achieve our goals. We will proceed with the activities that we have planned.

Our first upcoming event, Thursday, August 8th, is to honor the recipients of the scholarships and awards from the Grand Lodge, the CSJ, and our local Lodge. We have also invited past winners as a means to keep in touch with our students and to hear how they are doing. We hope that you will support this event either by donating a refreshment or by being present. This is our opportunity to engage with our students and to let them know we are here should they need us.

The Summer picnic for members has always been a tremendous success. We will again be at the lodge in Eyer Park on August 25th. Information has been forwarded to members over the past few weeks, but if you have not received your flyer, please let us know. We don't want anyone to miss out on a fun and relaxing day. And, by all means, invite the family and friends.

Our regional dinner will be held on September 8th in the Eyer Building. As in the past, our chef is Rosita Caridi-Miller. More information will be available shortly, but we hope you will put this date on your calendar. This is a meal you don't want to miss, so put the date on your calendar.

Finally (but not really) our Heritage Dinner Dance on October 18th. This is our opportunity to honor Italian Americans from our community who have given back and made a difference. A lot of work goes into this event from deciding on the venue, determining the menu, to the leg work that Kitty, Char, Carole, and Patty do to create an ad book that any organization would be envious to have, getting an MC, and the many jobs that make this event a success. It is not just a way to honor our fellow Italian Americans, but it is a means to fund our scholarships, which supports our children.

We work hard to make each and every event successful, but together the tasks do not have to be cumbersome, overwhelming, or stressful. Together we can accomplish a lot.

Sr. Marjorie Focarazzo
Vice President

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Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 2019 Calendar

- August 1st, 2019 @ 7pm: Council Meeting
- August 8th, 2019 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting and scholarship awards night
- August 25th, 2019 @ 1:30pm: Annual Summer Picnic (Quincy Lodge, Eyer Park, East Rochester) - RSVP Required**
- September 5th, 2019 @ 7pm: Council Meeting
- September 8th, 2019, 2pm: Regional Italian Dinner (Eyer Building, East Rochester) - RSVP Required**
- September 12th, 2019 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting
- October 3rd, 2019 @ 7pm: Council Meeting
- October 10th, 2019 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting
- October 18th, 2019 @ 6pm: Christopher Columbus Italian American Heritage Dinner (Burgundy Basin Inn, Bushnell's Basin) - RSVP Required**
- November 7th, 2019 @ 7pm: Council Meeting
- November 14th, 2019 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting
- December 5th, 2019 @ 7pm: Council Meeting
- December 12th, 2019 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270
Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America
The President's
Annual Members Picnic

Sunday
August 25th
1:30 pm

Quinzi Lodge
Eyer Park
East Rochester

Come Join Fellow Lodge Members for a Great Time and Great Food!!!
We are supplying Homemade Italian Sausage, Pepper & Onions, Fresh Made Rolls, Zweigle's Red & White Hots, Beans & Greens, Soda, Bottled Water, Coffee and Tea
Plus Your Dish to Pass:
Bring Appetizers, Salads, Side Dishes, Chips & Dip, Snack and/or Desserts

*Cost: No Charge for Lodge Members and Their Spouses
\$5.00 each for Non Members & Guests
Please bring a dish to pass!*

Return this to Past President Vincent Giannantonio
61 Sunset St. Rochester, NY 14606 or call Vince at (585) 208-1578

Name: _____ Address: _____
Phone No: _____ E-mail Address: _____
Number of Members Attending @ NC = _____ Number of Guests Attending @ \$5.00 = _____
Coordinate your Dish to Pass, Please Call Kitty DiNicola at 585 889 4513 or 585 880 9838
My Dish to Pass is _____

Sons & Daughters of Italy - Vincent Lombardi Lodge

Annual Regional Sunday Dinner

Cuisine of Lazio
Compliments of
Cibi
deliziosi

Sunday September 8, 2019 2:00 pm
\$45.00/person

Established in 1905

Vincent Lombardi
Lodge #2270
Rochester, NY - Since 1972

Come join fellow lodge members, friends, family and guests from other local Italian American organizations as we get a taste of a traditional home-cooked Lazio Sunday Dinner prepared by Chef Rosita Caridi-Miller.

Place: East Rochester Community Center, First Floor
Eyer Building, 317 Main St., East Rochester, NY

*Parking: Off street parking and parking lot behind the building
on W. Commercial St. across from the Village Fair.*

Please fill out and return to address below by Sept. 1 with check payable to Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____
EMAIL ADDRESS: _____
NUMBER OF DINNERS: _____ @ \$45.00/person
AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____ CHECK NUMBER: _____

Please remit to Vincent Giannantonio, 61 Sunset St, Rochester NY, 14606 - Phone # 585-208-1578 or
Payment can be made by credit card. Please see Louis DiCarolis

Please note, our monthly cards night has been discontinued.

7/4: Nancy Rubé, Robert Kosinsky, Tony Palucci
 7/8: Joe DiMaria, Richard Meleca
 7/9: Ann Marie Taddeo
 7/15: Marjorie Focarazzo
 7/16: Melissa DeStaffen
 7/18: Rosita Caridi-Miller
 7/21: Elizabeth Osta
 7/22: Stephanie Brey
 7/23: Robert Golino
 7/25: Bill Agnello
 7/27: Gerald Comardo
 7/29: Angelo Coccia

8/2: John Pecora
 8/11: Ernie Capone
 8/12: Linda Agnello, Jerry Griffo
 8/13: Patricia Rask, Daniel Strollo
 8/14: Frank Affronti
 8/22: Jacqueline Perrotta
 8/23: Jeremy DiFilippo
 8/24: Tom Meleca
 8/27: Saverio LaPietra
 8/31: Joe Rubé



Our deepest sympathies go out to the families of Brother Ross Battaglia, Brother John Pilato, and Sister Marie DiGiacomo.



Please keep President Sandy Meleca in your hearts and prayers, and she continues her recovery from a stroke and surgery.



Our 2019 La Bella Lingua Award is recipient Rocco Quatela, a senior at Gates Chili High School. He studied Italian starting in the eighth grade with his final year as an MCC Dual enrollment course allowing him college credit. He wanted to learn Italian so her could converse with his grandfather, who only speaks and understands Italian and Spanish. Rocco is active in the Boys Scouts and the Explorer program. He is an active participant with the youth ministry at St. Theodore's Church. His leadership skills have been demonstrated at school and within the community. He is very dedicated to serving and helping others. Rocco plans to study Business Management at St. John Fisher College.



Let's all give a warm welcome to our newest lodge member, Brother Daniel Strollo



Congratulations to Jeremy DiFilippo who will be the Deputy to the Geneva Lodge. Jeremy was approved at the Plenary Session, July 20, 2019.

2019 Scholarship Winners

Michelangelo is given credit for the phrase “ancora imparo” which means “Yet, I am learning” when at the age of 74 he became the architect of St. Peter’s Basilica in the Vatican, in his old age he created a number of Pietas with the last sculpture, *Rondanini Pieta*, being worked on six days before his death at the age of 88 three weeks before his 89th birthday.

Nothing stays the same: time changes, locations change, people change but learning never changes. Every day is an opportunity to learn something new. Learning should be continuous. It is a life-long process and should never stop. It is an attitude we should adhere to and something our children and young adults should adopt as part of their lifestyle. We commend each of our young adults who have submitted academic materials, letters of recommendations, and essays as part of OSDIA’s scholarships and awards. We wish all our graduating seniors the best in their pursuit of their goals, dreams, and aspirations wherever it may lead them.



2019 \$1500 Vincent Lombardi Lodge Scholarship & NYS Grand Lodge John Assenzio Jr. Memorial Scholarship for Undergraduate Education & Cooley’s Anemia Scholarship: Alyssa Libonati

Before I introduce myself, I would like to extend my deep gratitude to the Vincent Lombardi Lodge Board Executives, as well as its members, for giving me the honor of receiving the lodge’s top scholarship. I am proud of my Italian American heritage and realize more and more every day that it is my family’s immigration from Valguarnera to Rochester that has shaped me into the young woman I am today. My culture has grounded me morally, instilled in me a familial importance, and has attributed to my strong work ethic. I feel extremely lucky that my Italian American heritage has provided me with rich traditions and meaningful experiences. It is because of my culture that I grew up with an unforgettable connection to my Nonna, who taught me how to be compassionate, persevere, and of course-cook.

As a student at Spencerport High School I have been a part of the Service Learning Internship Program, an organization that places students in internships of their

choice. I personally interned at Highland Hospital in the Evarts Joint Center, shadowing various health professionals. This program also requires students to participate in at least one hundred and twenty hours of community service during the school year. I spent my time volunteering at Special Olympics events, St. Peter’s Soup Kitchen, Hope Lodge, and the annual Pirate Toy Fund Giveaway. I am also an active member in groups such as DASH2Change, Choices, am the manager of the Ranger Cub House, was Vice President of my class for two years, a member of National Honors Society and Hispanic Honors Society, received my Seal of Biliteracy in Spanish and English, and taught lessons through the Upstate New York Girl Up Coalition. DASH2Change and Girl Up are both geared towards one of my greatest passions, social justice. Some of my other interests include cooking, running, cycling, Olympic weight lifting, and spending time with family and friends. In the future I hope to pursue a career in the medical field. I will be attending Binghamton University in the fall in the pre-medical program. My pre-medical major will include concentrations in physiology or nutrition and I also intend to double major in Spanish. After completing my undergraduate requirements I hope to attend medical school and either have a career as a doctor.



2019 \$1000 Rubé Family Scholarship: Juliana Provenzale

My name is Juliana Provenzale and I was born in Queens, New York but grew up living overseas as an expat for the majority of my childhood. I was fortunate to live in Milan, Italy, Seoul, South Korea, and Hong Kong. Returning to the US, I now live in Pittsford, NY where I attend Pittsford Sutherland High School and will soon graduate with the Class of 2019 as an honor graduate.

Beginning in September, I will be attending the University of Maryland at College Park as a member of the College Park Scholars program. I intend to major in biology and through this path, plan on becoming a pediatrician or a dermatologist. I love working with children which is evidenced by the fact that I currently work every day at a daycare after school. It truly is the best part of my day. Separate from daycare, I nanny for a family in my neighborhood and I tutor refugee children through Saint’s Place, a program associated with my church. When I am not working or at school, I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, especially big family dinners on Sundays.



2019 \$1000 Past Honorees Scholarship: Savanna Calisto

Hello, my name is Savanna Calisto, and I am honored to be the 2019 winner of the past honorees scholarship. A little bit about me is I am a graduate of Spencerport High School's Class of 2019. I have attended Spencerport schools from 1st grade through 12th grade. People always ask me if I like Spencerport Schools and I always reply with, "I love them". I began to really love Spencerport when I got involved into many clubs, activities, and sports. I have been a cheerleader since the age of three. That was my main passion growing up and it still is to this day. In 7th grade, I finally started cheering for the school and made my life-long friends. I continued to cheer throughout high school and plan to continue in college. While in high school I also became involved in many other activities. I joined my school's Robotics team; Team 3015. That was a brand new experience and I learned a lot. I also became a part of the Choices and Slip programs which allowed me to participate in many volunteer activities. I still even wonder how I had the time for all my extra-curricular activities including work and school work, but I always put my studies first. In the fall of 2019, I will be attending the Rochester Institute of Technology to study Diagnostic Medical Sonography. Even though I live so close, I will be living on campus so I can experience everything that college has to offer. I hope to join Greek Life as well, and be a part of the Tiger's cheerleading team. As for my major, I am very passionate about it and I cannot wait to be a Sonographer. I was able to shadow in the lab at RIT in March and actually scan an ultrasound on some of the older students. That made me very sure of what I wanted to do. I really fell in love with sonography. Although I am not completely sure of my future plans after college, I do know that I plan to live here in the Rochester area to be near my family because they are so important to me. Again, I am so honored to have been chosen for the honorees scholarship due to my Italian heritage.



2019 \$1000 Past Honorees Scholarship: Vincenzo Capezzuto

Since I was a young child my parents tried to instill in me the value of working hard and always exposed me to a variety of activities. As I am preparing to graduate, I feel I have successfully continued what they started and look forward to continuing exploring at Colgate University.

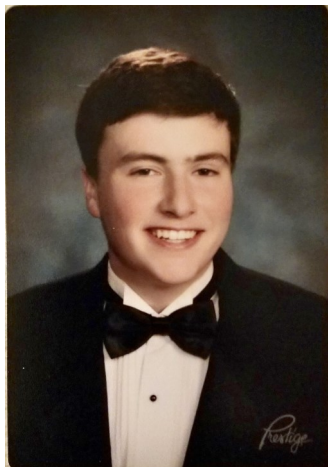
At school, I have worked very hard to maintain a high-grade point average. I am a member of the National Honor Society, an AP Scholar with Honors, a NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete and received the Chemistry Achievement Award from the American Chemical Society twice. Outside of academics, I am part of the Italian Club, Agape Latte Club, a leader in our Campus Ministry Board, a science club called Equations 2 Explosions, JETS (a junior engineering competition club) and Curling Club. I have played the saxophone since I was in 4th grade and am part of the Select Jazz Ensemble. Besides being actively

involved at my school and in my community, I work part-time at my local Wegmans. I enjoy work and the confidence it has given me.

Living a healthy life style and being active is very important to me. As soon as I could walk, my parents signed me up for a variety of sports. Soccer soon emerged as my passion and I have been playing since I was 4 years old. Other than soccer, I have also participated in Varsity Rugby and JV Tennis through school as well.

The value of community service has been emphasized both at home and at school. I have volunteered over 200 hours and have participated in many different service projects from feeding the homeless, tutoring refugee elementary students, volunteering at Strong Hospital to attending a service trip to Appalachia. I have also been an altar server at my church for many years. I plan to continue being "a man for others" in college and share the talents and blessings that I have been given.

Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 \$1000 Scholarship: Nicolas Meleca



I'm Nicolas Meleca and I graduated from McQuaid Jesuit and I will be attending Xavier University in the fall to study Finance and Management. I played many sports throughout high school. I played tennis for McQuaid all four years that I attended. I also played CYO basketball through all of high school. My Italian heritage helped me work with my family at the Rochester Public Market every Saturday. My Nonno and Nonna were able to teach me many valuable skills. Working at the market I was able to learn many different skills that included how to sell and interact with people. I also worked on a pizza food truck where I was able to again interact with people and sell product. I further developed my public speaking when I participated in Speech and Debate. I was able to qualify for the state tournament in Lincoln Douglas Debate. I look forward to studying further in my field and running my own business in the future.

NYS Grand Lodge Richard DiMarco Sr. Memorial Scholarship and Giambra Family Scholarship and Paul and Cheryl Speranza Foundation Scholarship: Paolo Blanchi



Paolo will be graduating from McQuaid Jesuit with a cumulative unweighted grade of 95.55. His SAT score is 1500 out of 1600, and he has taken honors and 5 AP courses. Paolo is excited to continue his academic pursuits at the University at Buffalo, where he plans on studying psychology and ergonomics. He knows he wants to have a significant impact to make the world a better place and to “set the world on fire”. He lived most of his life in Italy, which continues to influence what he hopes to accomplish. His commitment to service through the Campus Ministry is highly regarded and his faith is a big asset that propels him in what he chooses to do. In his free time, he enjoys drawing, graphic illustration, and watching and playing the real kind of football. His favorite team is Inter Milan. Besides that, he also loves travelling with his father when he visits him in Italy every year.”

NYS Grand Lodge, Geneva Lodge #2397 Scholarship in Memory of Deceased Members and Guglielmo Marconi Lodge #154 Scholarship and Jane Lippa Memorial Scholarship: Angelina Perry



Angelina is a member of the Geneva High School Class of 2019. While in high school, she has been a member of the National Honor Society, Link Crew (HS mentor program), Geneva Relay for Life, and Interact Club (Youth Rotary Club). She has been a Scholar Athlete while playing Varsity Volleyball (Co-Captain) and Lacrosse each year. She traveled to Europe with her AP World History Class in 2017. She has volunteered with youth sport clinics and is a Camp Counselor with disabled children at Happiness House in Geneva during the summer. While a member of Our Lady of Peace Church she has taught Religious Education Classes for three years. She recently was awarded the “Hands of Christ” award from the Rochester Catholic Diocese. She is planning to attend Nazareth College in the fall to pursue a degree in Occupational Therapy. Angie is very proud of her family’s Italian heritage and feels that it has helped to foster the young woman she is today!

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