



# The Roar of the Lion

Marisa Rubé, editor  
April 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Hope you all had a wonderful Easter with family and friends.

As I've written in previous letters, as a lodge we are honored to be cohosting the summer plenary session with the Geneva Lodge in July. Initial plans have been made and we expect to host a very successful event. Mark your calendars for July 27th and 28th. The Grand Lodge Council (Plenary) meeting will be on Saturday the 28th and everyone is welcome to attend. This is an opportunity to impress the Grand Lodge with our commitment to OSDIA and for us to see firsthand the inner workings of the state level organization. The event will be free to our members with a buffet lunch served and a picnic type dinner after the meeting. I cannot stress enough the importance of this event and I am hopeful that we will have a large showing from our lodge. Please let Marisa Rubé know if you plan to attend, as she is our liaison between the two lodges. We need to know the number attending especially for planning of the meals.



We are moving forward with Cibi Dinner in May. Plans are made - please put the date on your calendars (May 20th) and join us for a fun filled afternoon of wonderful food. Look for the flyer, including menu, with this newsletter. Hope to see you all there.

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On Saturday, March 24th we had an opportunity to spend the evening at a meet and greet with the Saint Nicholas Society at their location in East Rochester. It was a very enjoyable evening and we thank both Rosanna Fabi and Marylou Cadena for all their hard work and planning of the gathering. Looking forward to future get-togethers.

On a serious note, I want to make you all aware of another situation that is occurring. As you know, a few years back they were trying to eliminate Italian from some of the Greece high schools. As a group we successfully managed to have them keep it in their curriculum. Now we are faced with a similar situation in the Gates Chili school district. Due to budget concerns they want to eliminate Italian in their curriculum. If you disagree with this please write a letter or call the Gates School Board voicing your concerns especially if you are a Gates Chili resident. Please sign the petitions that are being circulated.

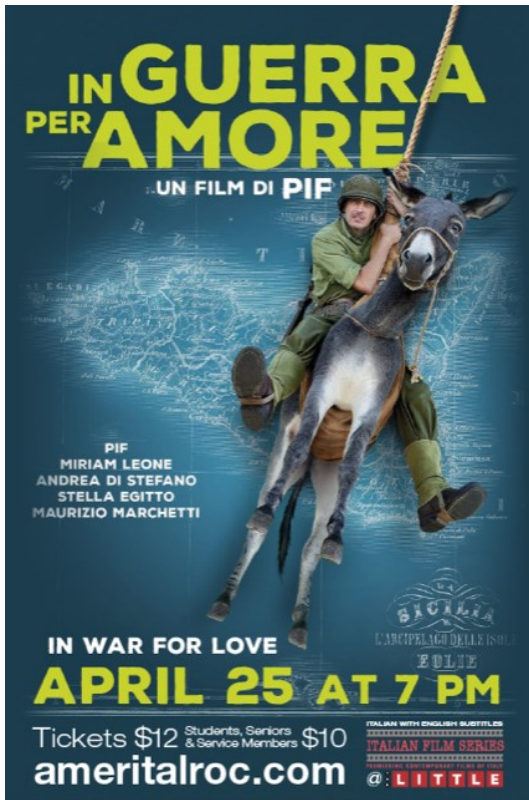
Finally, we all know the doctor Vincenzo Sellaro was the founder of our organization. on April 24th we are celebrating his 150th birthday. Happy Birthday Vincenzo! Thank you for such a great order.

Peace,  
Fraternally  
President Vince



### Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 2018 Calendar

- April 5th, 2018 @ 7pm: Council Meeting
- April 12th, 2018 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting
- May 3rd, 2018 @ 7pm: Council Meeting
- May 10th, 2018 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting
- May 20th, 2018: Cibi Dinner (Eyer Building, East Rochester)**
- May 26th, 2018: East Rochester Memorial Day Parade**
- May 31st-June 3rd, 2018: OSDIA NYS Convention**
- June 14th, 2018 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting
- July 5th, 2018 @ 7pm: Council Meeting
- July 12th, 2018 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting
- July 28th, 2018: NYS OSDIA Plenary Session (Geneva Lodge, Geneva NY)**
- August 2nd, 2018 @ 7pm: Council Meeting
- August 9th, 2018 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting
- September 6th, 2018 @ 7pm: Council Meeting
- September 13th, 2018 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting
- September 23rd, 2018: Member Appreciation Picnic**
- October 4th, 2018 @ 7pm: Council Meeting
- October 11th, 2018 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting
- October 2018, Date/Time TBD: Italian American Heritage Dinner**
- November 1st, 2018 @ 7pm: Council Meeting
- November 8th, 2018 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting
- November 2018, Date/Time TBD: Annual Turkey Raffle**
- December 6th, 2018 @ 7pm: Council Meeting
- December 13th, 2018 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting



### Angels of Mercy, Inc.



### 11th Annual Pasta Dinner

Date: Sunday, April 22nd, 2018

Time: 1:00 - 5 p.m.

Eastridge High School  
2370 East Ridge Road  
Rochester, NY 14622

Entertainment  
Raffles  
50/50 Drawings

Fundraiser proceeds will be used for

Angels of Mercy, Inc.

Dinner Tickets

Donations are:

Adults \$10 per person

Children 10 & under - \$5 per child

Children under 3 are FREE

Raffle Tickets- \$2. each, 6 for \$10.

Sponsored by: ITALEO

Sharon Rivaldo & Annunciation Seniors

Cooking by: Phil Rivaldo & Crew

For more information call 730-4556 - or visit [www.angelsofmercy.org](http://www.angelsofmercy.org)  
Please make checks payable to Angels of Mercy, Inc.  
and mail to 692 N. Winton Rd, Rochester, NY 14609  
Thank you in advance for your support!

### State and National Events

- April 3rd, 2018: NYS Grand Lodge Foundation **Cooley's Anemia Dine Around**
- April 6th-8th: NYS Grand Lodge Foundation **Student Summit—Albany NY**
- April 27th, 2018: NYS Grand Lodge Foundation **36th Anniversary Golden Lion Awards Dinner—Garden City, NY**
- April 28th, 2018: NYS Grand Lodge **Plenary Session—Port Washington, NY**



- |                                |                              |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>4/1: Ted DeSoto</b>         | <b>4/14: Bonnie Cottone</b>  |
| <b>4/3: Mike Arena</b>         | <b>4/19: Rufus Brey</b>      |
| <b>4/9: Matthew Grosodonia</b> | <b>4/25: Tony Galvano</b>    |
| <b>4/10: Angela Amato</b>      | <b>4/26: Peter Maddalena</b> |
| <b>4/13: Ray Macera</b>        | <b>4/26: Tony Mangione</b>   |
| <b>4/13: Jim Vacanti</b>       | <b>4/29: Daniel DeJohn</b>   |



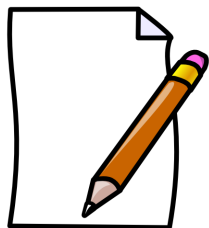
Our thoughts and prayers are with Brother Gino Romano and his family as they mourn the loss of Gino's mother.

Please keep Paul Spiranza, our 2016 Lifetime Achievement award winner, and his family in your thoughts, as Paul's wife recently passed away from pancreatic cancer.



DeCarolis Truck Rental was ranked in the #8 spot for medium sized businesses on the Rochester Top workplaces list for 2018. Congratulations Brothers Paul and Louis DeCarolis!

[Rochester Democrat and Chronical—Rochester's Top Workplaces 2018](#)



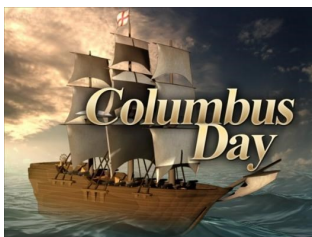
Dear Members & Friends,

In an effort to cut costs, the Gates Chili School District is planning to eliminate the Italian and Latin language programs for 7th and 8th grade students, with the ultimate goal of eventually eliminating the high school programs as well. If you disagree with this decision, please express your opinion via the internet or by phone - to Kimberle Ward. Superintendent of Schools. District Office. 585-247-5050 Ext 12201. Email: Kimberle\_Ward@gateschili.org or James Crider - School Board President - Email: James\_Crider@gateschili.org. The school budget votes take place on May 15th. Any comments must be made asap.

Columbus Day is under attack again. A bill has been introduced by the California State Senate to replace Columbus Day with Indigenous People's Day. A task force has been created to address concerns of Italian Americans at the state government level. Task force members met with Senator Henry Stern (who introduced the bill) to discuss concerns about the bill. Senator Stern is taking explanations under consideration. Taking away an Italian American holiday is something that cannot be replaced and could damage the future of our community. The task force has recently forged a compromise to recognize Italian American Heritage Day on the second Monday in October to protect the Columbus Day holiday. If you would like to voice your concerns to Senator Stern, use the contact information here:

Email: [henry.stern@sen.ca.gov](mailto:henry.stern@sen.ca.gov) Phone: 916-651-4027

Address: Senator Henry Stern, State Capitol, 1315 10th St, Sacramento CA 95914



## CSJ Report - Sister Marjorie Focarazzo

### Marzabotto Massacre

The Marzabotto Massacre was a World War II crime with the systematic murder of at least 770 civilians—155 were less than 10 years old, 95 were between the ages of 10 to 16, 142 were over 60 years old, 454 were male, 316 were female, and 5 Catholic priests-- in the small village of the Marzabotto and Province of Bologna Regions between September 29 and October 5, 1944 by the Nazis as retribution for supporting the Resistance. The count of 1830 people were executed throughout the entire area. In Sept. 1943, Italy broke off its alliance with Nazi Germany, and the German forces became occupiers, devastating all that stood in their way as they retreated north. On Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>, the German and Austrian SS troops were ordered to purge the entire area.

The communities of Castiglione dei Pepoli, Monte Stanco, Grizzana Morandi, and the surrounding areas were emancipated from the Nazis in the autumn of 1944 by the 6<sup>th</sup> Armoured Division from South Africa. Out of nowhere, the group of Allied soldiers engaged the SS in combat. After a long battle, they were able to drive the Nazis behind the Gothic Line, which saved many lives. The Gothic line was a German Defensive Line. The South Africans were the first of the Allied troops to arrive in the area with the British, American, New Zealand, Rhodesian, Australian, and Indian troops arriving three days later from a nearby American base in Livernago with food and supplies for all the towns people. Camps were set up along what is known today as the Gothic Line.

Giovanni Fornasini, a parish priest and member of the Resistance risked his own life to save many parishioners from the massacre. He was assassinated burying the bodies of those killed, which was forbidden by the Nazis. Fr. Fornasini confessed to helping the villagers escaped as he was accused of committing crimes against the state. Today, he is remembered as the Angel of Marzabotto.

As the Nazis were pushed back by allied forces, massacres became more brutal, cruel and reckless. The massacre at Sant' Anna di Stazzema claimed 560 victims. In Vaccareccia, 70 people were locked in a stable and murdered. The entire village was then reduced to ashes. The same happened in Franchi and Pero. The Nazis were ordered to kill 50 Italians for every German victim.

The massacres of Italian civilians were just a few of the war crimes committed against humanity. It took 60 years but as one victim stated, "Justice has prevailed at last. We waited for decades for this verdict." and another, "Justice was carried out—at least a little bit." The British tried SS General Max Simon, who was sentenced to death, but later was changed to life in prison; pardoned in 1954 and died in 1961. The Americans arrested SS Major Walter Reder who was tried by an Italian military court in Bologna and sentenced to life imprisonment in the military prison in Gaeta; released in 1985 and died in 1991. January 2007, 10 of 17 suspected former SS members were found guilty in absentia by an Italian military tribunal. All were sentenced to life imprisonment and were ordered to pay roughly 100 million euros to the survivors and relatives of the victims. The judgement was predominantly symbolic since the perpetrators all live in Germany and extradition to Italy unlikely, and at the advanced age of the accused, they will not face a German court for the crimes they committed.

April 2002, the then president of Germany, Johannes Rau, went to the hills of Italy to ask forgiveness for the massacres that took place during World War II. The apology showed a willingness for both countries to come to terms with past Nazi crimes.

### Italy Facts

Many disparities still divide the Northern and Southern parts of Italy. Add to that list a remarkable difference in life expectancy. According to the country's National Health Observatory, which recently studied differences in health conditions between the South and North, Italians living in the northeast live longer than those in the Meridione. In the Trentino-Alto Adige, women live up to 86.3 years, while men live on average until 81.6. In Campania, on the other hand, women reach 84.1, while men top off at 79.8. One of the main reasons for the disparity, according to the Observatory, is access to healthcare centers. The Observatory also noticed a difference in life expectancy due to education, with less education Italians living shorter lives. The provinces with longer life expectancies are Florence (84.1), followed by Monza and Treviso.

Excerpted from the magazine—  
Fra Noi ([www.franoi.com](http://www.franoi.com))

## 2018 Meet & Greet with St Nicholas Society



## VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE OFFICERS

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**First Vice-President**  
Sandra Meleca

**Second Vice-President**  
Thomas Meleca

**Recording Secretary**  
Marisa Rubé

**Financial Secretary**  
Louis DeCarolis

**Treasurer**  
Catherine DiNicola

**Orator**  
Matthew Grosodonia

**Mistress of Ceremony**  
Mary Lou Cadena

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Ronald Santoli

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Edward Groszewski  
Luigi DiFilippo  
Antonio Palucci  
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Lillian Bonanni

**Immediate Past President**  
Joseph Rubé, MD

**Chaplain**  
Patricia Galante

**District VIII State  
Trustee**  
Joseph Rubé

**Chaplain Emeritus**  
Sister Carole Proia

**State Deputy to Vincent Lombardi  
Lodge**  
Tony DiCostanzo

**State Deputy to Geneva Lodge**  
Thomas Meleca

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Thomas Laverne\*  
Louis Giambra\*  
Joseph Vazzana  
John March\*  
Victor Bell\*  
Peter Cimino\*  
Sam Parese\*  
Cosmo Caceci\*  
Michael La Comba\*  
Shirley Sculli  
Phillip Dattilo  
Joseph Berta\*  
Joseph Rubé  
Jennifer Rubé\*



## LODGE COMMUNICATIONS

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vinnyg1951@gmail.com