



The Roar of the Lion

Marisa Rubé Przepiora, editor
November 2019

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

What a tremendous success our Heritage Dinner Dance was. We had more than 160 in attendance. Our honorees—Elizabeth Osta, James Caternolo, and Wayne Perlo—shared stories and accolades of their family, friends, and lives. Over \$1200 was donated to the scholarship fund in addition to what our past honorees gave. Again, my heartfelt thanks to Bros. Vince, Luigi, Louis, Tom, and Ron and Sisters Kitty, Patty, Char, Carol, Marisa, Mary Lou and Bonnie. And deepest appreciation to Joe DiFabio and Minuteman Press for taking on at the last minute the monumental project of putting together our ad book.



As we morph into the fall season, we have our lodge Thanksgiving Gathering Dinner to look forward to on November 21st. We will have the talented Rock City Singers under the direction of Judith Renalletta perform for us. The next couple of months will be busy with family gatherings, shopping, and functions galore, but think about who or what are you most grateful for this past year. For me, I have my health, endurance, and stamina; my terrific kids, grandchildren, and the new addition, my great grandson; my extended family with the Vincent Lombardi Lodge members, FIG, and Osher Institute; and I have my life with Ron.



The other part of gratitude is the **beauty of giving**. The organization Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes, under the direction of Marisa Rubé Przepiora, provides services to individuals, children, and families who have experienced sexual assault, sexual abuse, and interpersonal violence. The beauty of giving is if you have the power to make someone happy, brighten their day, make them feel better, help them to smile, or to let them know they have your support, then just do it. Our lives become richer when we give of ourselves. What is gain is the feeling we get when we help others to better their lives. True joy lies in the act of giving without expecting to get something in return. Giving is the best investment to finding true happiness. True giving comes from the heart. For our December meeting on the 12th; let us show Safe Harbors we care. A box will be provided to collect items that are needed: personal hygiene, unwrapped toys, books, games, what ever is in your heart to give. All those who donate will be entered to win a bottle of wine.

God Bless
Happy Thanksgiving

Marjorie

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2020 Lodge Events Save the Date!!

After Holiday Party



*January 12th, 2020 @ 12pm
Valicia's Restaurant, Gates*

Italian Regional Dinner



*April 26, 2020
Featuring the Lazio Region
with Chef Rosita Ciardi-Miller
Eyer Building, East Rochester*

Members Picnic



*August 23rd, 2020
Quinzi Lodge, Eyer Park, East
Rochester*

Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 2019 Calendar

November 7th, 2019 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

November 14th, 2019 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

**November 21st, 2019 @ 6pm: Annual
Thanksgiving Celebration (St. Nicholas Society
Hall, East Rochester) \$25/pp, RSVP DUE BY
NOVEMBER 15th**

**November 22nd, 2019: Pie Pick Up (Eyer Building,
East Rochester)**

December 5th, 2019 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

December 12th, 2019 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting



*Join us for our Holiday Meeting
December 12th in the
Eyer Building*





11/1: Franklin D'Aurizio
11/1: Joseph Valentino
11/13: Dennis Erbeta

11/17: Patty Johns
11/25: Gino Romano



Sending get well wishes to Sister Mary Rinere as she recuperates from surgery, and to Sister Mary Delman as she recovers from a fall.

Continued prayers to President Sandy Meleca as she continues her recovery.



Congratulations to Sister Kitty and Brother David DiNicola on the arrival of their new grandson!

Season of giving.....

Safe Harbors
of the Finger Lakes
Advocate. Educate. Support.

The mission of Safe Harbors is to provide reliable information, support, referrals, and advocacy for individuals, children, families, and communities impacted by sexual and interpersonal violence. All of our services are provided free of charge.

Our vision is for our communities to overcome the stigma and burdens of sexual and interpersonal violence and to be safe and secure from these harmful acts and crimes.

Last year, Safe Harbors served over 1500 victims of domestic and sexual violence. In each instance, victims came through our doors with a myriad of emergency needs, including personal hygiene items, household items, and toys and books for children.

In 2020, Safe Harbors will be opening an emergency shelter for domestic violence victims and their children—the first of its kind in our three county service area, and the need becomes even greater. Victims entering shelter with their children are doing so with nothing but the clothes on their back. As they leave shelter, they are often moving into their first violence free home, and starting over from scratch.

Safe Harbors relies on partners in the community to help provide for all of these emergency needs. At our December 12th lodge general assembly meeting, we will be collecting items to support the clients of Safe Harbors with these emergency needs. Needed items include:

- Children's toys, puzzles, books, craft kits (all ages)
- Shampoo, Conditioner, Soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, feminine care products
- Sheets, pillowcases, pillows, blankets
- Scarves, hats, gloves
- Diapers and wipes

Your donation can truly make a difference in the lives of others. Thank you in advance for your support of the work that Safe Harbors is doing to provide safety and security for victims of domestic and sexual violence in the community.



Members Making A Difference: Brother Tony Mangione

ITALIAN FILM SERIES

PREMIERING CONTEMPORARY FILMS OF ITALY

Sitting in a piazza on the Island of Salina, Tony Mangione was enjoying his Italian vacation to the fullest, under a summer starry night, listening to the waves of the Mediterranean crashing on the shore, and watching a movie with the rest of the town. The scene reminded him of the open-air screenings as in the movie Cinema Paradiso. PERFETTI SCONOSCIUTI was on the big screen, and Tony thought it would be a perfect movie for the American audiences. Upon his return to the US, he met with the staff at the Little Theatre, where independent and foreign movies are shown, and suggested they get the movie. A week went by, and Tony was told that the theater's distributors could not get the movie but if he wanted to, the Little would support the idea and he could rent one of the theaters and show the movie himself.

He started thinking. When was the last time that a theater in Rochester showed an Italian movie? Outside of the occasional niche film festivals, he could not recall any. He started researching Italian movie on websites and found out that Italian movies are rarely shown in the US outside of NY and Los Angeles. Italian Film Festivals are very popular in the US but they are mostly linked with educational institutions. Current Italian movies are hard to find. A few can be found on Amazon, and most of them won't work on US disc players. All regions disc players are not off the shelf items in US stores. The American movie market is not conducive to current Italian movies. A slice of Italian culture was systematically cut out of the American lifestyle



In true Italian "I'll do it myself" fashion, Tony decided that there were certain films that needed to be seen and created the Italian Film Series, bringing in movies right from the theaters in Italy, and sometime showing features that Italians haven't seen yet in their own country. Since April 25, 2017 Italian movies have been shown one night a month at the Little Theatre, and the Italian Film Series has become an artistic success and a favorite addition of the Rochester art scene. More than 60% of the audience consists of non-Italian speaking people that are able to enjoy a taste of Italian life, character, and behavior, let alone some of the most breathtaking sceneries. Every movie deals with some particular current issue, or some part of life that reaches deep into people and has them talking about the event for days. The acceptance and success of the film series allowed Tony to start an "encore" presentation of some of the movies at the Cinema Theater, on a Sunday at 1:00PM to make it easier for people from out of town to come to the screenings. They come from Canandaigua, Auburn, Syracuse, Buffalo, Glens Falls, Geneva, and even from Nunda.

A good relationship was formed with the Italian distributors, and in some case Tony is able to bring to Rochester a US Premiere, such as the case with IL SINDACO: Italian Politics 4 Dummies, this November 14 at the Little Theatre. This documentary about Italian politics raised so much furor and was so controversial that it was only shown in Italy in 5 theatres and only for two days.

Movies were part of growing up in post WWII Italy, and gave Tony a vision of the world, and now he is opening up a window into Italy for those that either have been absent, travelled there, or are drawn by the Italian spirit and culture. Being born in Torino from Sicilian parents gave Tony a wider perspective of Italian life. Having travelled around the world and establishing himself in Rochester he came to the realization of how much the Italian culture has impacted the American lifestyle from food, to music, aesthetics, and so on. The movies now bring an additional perspective on life that has been missing in this city for a long time.

OSDIA Charity Spotlight: The Gift of Sight

www.supportgiftofsight.org

The Gift of Sight is a nonprofit organization whose sole purpose is to provide eye care and services to those in need both domestically and internationally. It was founded by ophthalmologist, Dr. Kenneth Westfield, more than thirty years ago to help those in third world countries where blindness can be a death sentence. The Gift of sight has volunteered supplies, knowledge, and surgical skills in areas of need: Haiti, Vietnam, Philippians, Guatemala, and Kenya, just to name a few places. They have worked in conjunction with other organizations to improve health and medical care.

Last year the medical team was able to screen more than 12,000 patients, dispense over 6500 pairs of eyeglasses, and perform hundreds of cataract surgeries. In the United States, Dr. Westfield and his fellow doctors annually gave free eye screening exams to those children who cannot afford a visit to the eye doctor. Each year more than 400 children have been fitted for eyeglasses.

The UW Medicine Eye Institute and University Ballard Lions Club and the North West Lions Eyeglass Recycling have launched a program to assist patients with eye care. The Lions Gift of Sight Program helps patients in the Seattle area in filling eye glass prescriptions. The Lions Clubs do a fantastic job of collecting glasses and providing them to those in need.

The Gift of Sight of NYS Grand Lodge began in 1982 providing services to those in need medically and financially for both children and adults. Housing accommodations have been provided to those patients who arrive from out of the area and from foreign countries. They have purchased the Corneal Refrigeration Unit located at the Long Island Eye Bank, funded research grants at John Hopkins University Hospital, sponsored guide dogs through the Guide Dog Foundation, and provided the means for retinal and cataract surgeries. They also provide the monies for a Gift of Sight Scholarship given to a legally visually impaired graduating high school senior.

Your donation to the Gift of Sight can provide the needed services and can change the lives of children and adults.

General Assembly Meeting October 2019 Recap

The meeting was highlighted with a presentation by the Guiding Eyes for the Blind Program "Raise a Puppy" whose mission is to give the gift of independence, freedom, and confidence to achieve life's goals to the visually impaired. Our guests gave us an overview of what puppy raisers do to prepare dogs to become a guide dog. What an inspiring presentation!

Two projects were presented from National: 1) Do You Know Your Italian Roots a genealogy research contest to discover family history going back to the 1700's and reconnecting with "living" relatives. The winner would need to become an at-large member to National to be qualified for the award. 2) Help OSDIA tell our story to current and prospective members through photography and/or video. Deadline submission is January 1, 2020.

Many communications were received from lodges throughout the state. The Geneva Lodge, which is part of our district, will hold an Italian Heritage and Culture Fall Brunch on Sunday, November 10th at Club 86, Ave. E in Geneva on Sunday, \$25 per person and \$12 for children 4-10 years. No tickets will be sold at the door. Proceeds to benefit the Commission for Social Justice.

The Commission for Social Justice reported on the Zinn Project with review of textbooks and how Christopher Columbus is portrayed under the Education Committee, chaired by Lou Gallo. The CSJ would also like to see the vandalization of any Columbus statute be considered a hate crime and a letter to the NYS Attorney General will be sent requesting this.

The documentary, My Italian Secret: Forgotten Heroes of the Holocaust will be shown at the North Park Theatre in Buffalo on Monday, Oct. 21st at 7 pm, cost \$12.50/person.

Our Man of the Year, Jim Caternolo's application for membership was approved by the assembly.

Our events: Heritage Dinner Dance doing well with RSVPs. The Pie Sale's final date for orders is due on Oct. 28th with pickup on Nov. 22nd at the East Rochester Community Center. The Turkey Gathering Dinner will take place on Thursday, Nov. 21st at St. Nicholas Hall in East Rochester. Cost is \$25/person. Entertainment will be provided by the Roc City Singers directed by Judith Ranaletta. Save the dates for the Cibi/Regional Dinner showcasing the Lazio Region for Sunday, April 26th at the East Rochester Community Center, and the Members' Picnic for Sunday Aug. 23rd at the Quinzi Lodge in Eyer Park.

Our evening ended with refreshments and a timed to converse. Thank you to those who provided snacks and goodies.



A Forgotten Brother?

By: Ed Groszewski

Immigration problems. Scandal in the church. Encouraging pride in our Italian-American community. These issues confront us every time we watch the news or read our lodge newspaper. But we make a mistake if we think that these worries have only arisen in our time. The life of a nearly forgotten brother who lived in our midst not so long ago reminds us that we are just another chapter in the history books.

Matteo Teresi was born in Alia, Sicily, in 1875 and died in Rochester in 1971. The life he lived in those ninety-six years ought to inspire us as brothers and sisters, as Americans proud of our Italian heritage, and as caring human beings.

Matteo was the son of a pharmacist and his wife, the daughter of a landowner, in the small town of Alia, Palermo, Sicily. The combination of his intelligence and the resources of his family meant that after completing his early schooling in the village, he was sent to the university at Palermo to study pharmacy and follow in his father's footsteps. While there he developed a strong interest in law and he returned to the village as a lawyer as well as a pharmacist. He might have lived the quiet life of a small town avvocato had it not been his response to the scandalous actions of the clergy in his hometown and Matteo's insistence on making the whole truth known.

A priest in Alia, Rosolino Martino, was arrested for the corruption of underage girls. Matteo wrote a column in the town newspaper, *La Battaglia*, that fought the abuses of the mafiosi, the landowners, and the church. He kept investigating the case and discovered that some of the priests of the town had founded a secret sect that seduced young girls and even newly wedded brides by teaching them that indulging in sex with these priests would earn them indulgences and open the gates of heaven for them. Even though Matteo's findings were confirmed by Father Martino, the local clergy, landowners, and the mafia joined together to attack Teresi and cow the local population into silence. Teresi responded to these attacks by accusing the townsmen of weakness in the face of obvious corruption. This turned the townspeople against him and caused the bishop of Cefalu to accuse him of blasphemy. At this point Teresi realized that his life was in danger, and immediately left for the United States and Rochester. (Note: Teresi attacked only the abuses of the clergy, not the church itself and remained a faithful Catholic.)

After settling in at Rochester, where other immigrants from Alia had already settled, Matteo became a steamship agent with offices on Central Park, assisting many immigrants with their passage from Europe. But bringing other Italians safely to our shores is only the beginning of Matteo's involvement with the immigrant experience. For the remainder of his life, he was a constant advocate for the Italian immigrant in America. He wrote articles and books, spoke at rallies, and entered into legal proceedings all in the effort to help the immigrant survive, succeed, and flourish in his adopted country. His most important work was the book *Con Patria in Nel Cuore* (With My Homeland in My Heart), which is both an account of his own life experiences and a storehouse of lessons for other Italian-Americans.

Although the membership records are difficult to find, Matteo was almost certainly a member of the Order of the Sons of Italy in America (now OSDIA). This is attested by his frequent praise of the organization and the use he made of their network of publications and events to further his efforts.

If anyone reading this has any information about Matteo's life in Rochester I would be most appreciative if you would contact me.

Ed Groszewski

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CSJ Spotlight: The Story of Giulia Colbert Falletti

By: Marjorie Focarazzo

Giulia, formerly Juliette, Colbert Falletti's story begins in the French Revolution, when her aristocratic grandparents met their fate with the guillotine. Young Giulia, dressed as a boy, escaped with her parents to Koblenz, a German city to escape the same destiny. In 1802, Napoleon granted amnesty to most exiles and the family returned to France and regained their title and property. The young and beautiful Giulia was noticed by the emperor and selected for politically strategic marriage to the Marchese Carlo Tancredi Falletti of Barolo, who was the last descendent of the region's oldest and richest family.

They devoted themselves to good works and societal change. Giulia was horrified by the conditions of women in the local jails, and she fought to improve circumstances prison reform. She wanted to break the cycle of poverty, and she established a day care center in their palazzo so mothers would have a place to leave their children while they worked. She and her husband founded free schools for children with the first opening in 1821 at Borgo Dora. She also started the Istituto del Rifugio for mothers in 1823 and an institute for victims of child prostitution in 1833. They also founded the Sisters of Saint Anne and Daughters of Jesus the Good Shepherd.

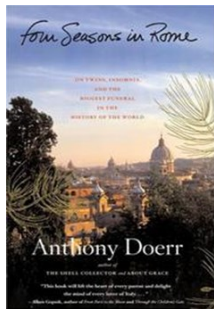
After the death of her husband, Giulia changed the palazzo into an orphanage for girls and stated a school to teach sewing so women could support themselves and their families. She created the Opera Pia Barolo Foundation which continues the tradition and is funded by the Marchesi di Barolo vineyards and wines.

On November 17, 1990, Pope John Paul II opened the cause for canonization. Giulia Colbert Falletti became titled as a Servant of God. After years of investigation by the church, she became titled as Venerable on May 5, 2015 after Pope Francis confirmed she had lived a model life of heroic virtue.

Book Review

Four Seasons in Rome *by Anthony Doerr*

Reviewed by Sister Marjorie Focarazzo



All of us should be caught in this predicament: the birth of twin boys and to find out you are the recipient of a prestigious award that takes you to Rome, Italy for a year to research and to write.

The award includes an apartment, a studio at the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and a stipend to cover the cost of living. You may ask, “What can be so bad about that?” The dilemma you face is leaving your home and support system, especially with taking care of two newborn babies, and to moved to a foreign country, specifically the Eternal City, to explore, discover, and study.

The chronicles of Anthony Doerr taking place over the span of year, experience his newborn sons becoming toddlers, is funny, touching, and inspiring. He realizes what is normal back home becomes new all over again in this foreign country. The comforts of “home” are what is lacking in this apartment: no oven, unconventional plumbing, alarming traffic noises and patterns, and a language barrier. But even with all the inconveniences and awkward moments, Anthony and his family are embraced by the bakers, grocers, and butchers in the neighborhood.

The reader shares his panic when his wife falls and needs to be hospitalized. We share his joy and wonderment as his sons learn to walk and talk. Through the trials of domestic life, he finds time to read the old masters. Instead of writing his novel, the reason for his award and for living in Italy, which is set in France during World War II, he records beautifully in prose the magnificent sights he witnesses, the wondrous sounds of the language he tries to learn and understand, and the sadness which prevails at the funeral of Pope John Paul.

The book is a celebration of Rome, a glorious account of being a new parent, and a fascinating story of the year long journey that jumps from topic to topic, concentrating first on one and then another, moving from observation to observer. He makes you feel as if you are a part of his life, creating new memories, seeing what he sees, experiencing what he experiences, and feeling what he feels. *Four Seasons in Rome* is more than a travelogue, it is a memoir that comes alive for its readers.

The Little Italian Cookbook

As the weather gets colder, now is a great time to showcase some delicious soups from current and past members of our lodge....

Clam Chowder

Recipe by Sister Shirley Sculli

- 1 can baby clams
- 2 cans cream of potato soup
- 2 cans milk
- 1 stick margarine
- 1 cup finely chopped celery
- 1 cup finely chopped onions

In a large saucepan, melt margarine and sauté celery and onion until tender. Add clams, potato soup, and milk. Cook on low for at least 45 minutes.

Italian Cabbage Soup

Recipe by Sister Ann Vazzana

- 1 medium onion, sliced
- 5 celery stalks, diced
- 1 small head cabbage, chopped
- 1 large potato, diced
- 10 oz broccoli—fresh or frozen
- 1 (6-oz) can tomato soup
- 1 Tablespoon olive oil
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/2-3/4 lb rice
- Salt and pepper to taste

Boil water in 8-quart pan. When water is boiling, add all ingredients except rice. Once ingredients in pan are soft, add the rice. Simmer but do not let rice get too soft. Add salt and pepper to taste.

Lentil Soup

Recipe by Sister Angie Parisi

- 2 cups dry lentils
- 2 medium potatoes, cubed
- 1 small onion
- 1/3 lb margarine
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic salt or 1 clove garlic
- Salt and pepper to taste

Wash lentils clean; add about 2 quarts water. Cook slowly until tender with garlic. When very tender, add raw cubed potatoes and cook until soft. Make gravy by browning flour, margarine, and chopped onion together in small skillet. Add the lentils and cook slowly until soup is smooth and creamy.

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