



The Roar of the Lion

Marisa Rubé, editor
May/June 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope everyone had a pleasant Easter holiday and enjoyable Mother's Day. I want to wish all the mothers of the lodge a happy belated Mother's Day.

I also want to congratulate the winner of the La Bella Lingua Achievement Award, Maranda Meisenzahl. This award was given to a deserving student by the New York State Grand Lodge. Maranda will be attending Brockport State University in the fall with aspirations of becoming a teacher in the near future. I wish her much success with her education.



I welcome our new members, initiated last month at the Grapevine restaurant : Vivian and Salvatore Sciortino, Rick Amico and Angelo Coccia. Looking forward to seeing you all at our upcoming events.

As you know, once again we are participating in the East Rochester Memorial Day Parade. We will meet at Debbie's Supply at 10 AM. Please plan on attending and wear your purple shirt!

I am looking forward to the State Convention, which takes place next weekend. As you know the Grand Lodge is honoring one of our own, Dr. Ed Maruggi, with a Literary Award. Who knew Brother Ed was also a winemaker?! He will be entering his wine to the contest at the convention. Good luck Brother Ed!

At this time I want to thank Carolyn Reres for a very successful presidency of the New York State Grand Lodge. Looking forward to working with our new president who will be elected at this year's convention. We will fill you in on details from the convention when the delegates give their reports.

One last reminder - don't forget about our bocce tournament in June. We are competing against other Italian groups in Rochester. If you are interested please call me as soon as possible. Thank you.

Fraternally yours,

Peace,

President Vincent

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Rochester Italian American Community Events

- June 1, 2017 12:00 pm - Thursday Club Lunch - Italian American Sport Club
- June 2, 2017 6:30 pm - General Meeting with guests - Italian American Sport Club
- June 10, 2017 2:00 pm - FIG Meeting - FIG - Friends of Italian Genealogy
- June 15, 2017 12:00 pm - Thursday Club Lunch - Italian American Sport Club
- June 24, 2017 9:00 am - Bocce Tournament - Italian Civic League (ICL)
- June 24, 2017 6:30 pm - Saint Padre Pio Gala - Italian American Sport Club, St. Padre Pio Institute
- June 29, 2017 12:00 pm - Thursday Club Lunch - Italian American Sport Club
- July 7, 2017 6:30 pm - General Meeting with guests - Italian American Sport Club
- July 9, 2017 12:00 pm - Annual Picnic - Italian American Sport Club
- July 29, 2017 12:00 pm - Annual Picnic - FIG - Friends of Italian Genealogy

East Rochester Community Events

May 27th, 10:30am: Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony - Edmund Lyon Park

Summer Concert Series

- June 14 — Back in Town — Rock Favorites @ Eyer Building Lot
- June 28 — Ruby Shooz — 50's and 60's Party Band @ Building Lot
- July 12 — TBA — @ Eyer Building Lot
- July 26 — Red Eye Jack — Rocking Country @ Eyer Building Lot
- Aug 9 — Mr. Mustard — Beatles ~ Beatles ~ Beatles & New @ Eyer Building Lot
- Aug 23 — Home Grown Special @ Building Parking Lot

Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270

Calendar - 2017

June 1st-4th, 2017: Annual NYS OSIA Convention

June 8th, 2017 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

July 6th, 2017 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

July 13th, 2017 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

August 3rd, 2017 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

August 10th, 2017 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

August 27th, 2017 @ 1pm: Annual Member Appreciation Picnic (Eyer Park, East Rochester)

September 7th, 2017 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

September 14th, 2017 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

October 5th, 2017 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

October 12th, 2017 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

October 2017 Date & Time TBD: Christopher Columbus Italian American Heritage Dinner

November 2nd, 2017 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

November 9th, 2017 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

November 2017 Date & Time TBD: 18th Annual Papa Antolini's Turkey Raffle

December 7th, 2017 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

December 14th, 2017 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

****Please note, all Council and General Assembly meetings are held at the Eyer Building—317 Main Street, East Rochester**

OSIA New York Grand Lodge Events

May 25th, 2017 @ 6pm: 29th Annual National Education & Leadership Awards (NELA) Gala honoring Honorable Jessica Garfola Wright, Rear Admiral Margaret DeLuca "Peg" Klein, Anthony J. Cancelosi, Robert A. Messa - Washington DC

June 1st - 4th, 2017: NYS Grand Lodge Convention

June 10th, 2017 @ 12pm: NYS Grand Lodge Scholarship Awards Program, Tappan Zee High School - Orangeburg

June 24th, 2017: NYS Grand Lodge 112th Anniversary Event, Little Italy



05/04: Luigi LaPietra
 05/06: Vincenzo Buonomo
 05/11: Richard Gigliotti
 05/12: Mario Daniele
 05/18: Salvatore DiPerna
 05/23: Clemente Suero
 05/26: Angela Cataldi

06/06: Mary Ricci
 06/11: Tricia Lagana
 06/11: Joe Quatela
 06/16: Quintino DiCesare
 06/16: Eunice McCarthy
 06/17: Hugh Warner
 06/18: Giacomo DiPisa

06/22: Carol DiNicola
 06/25: Edward Groszewski
 06/25: Mike Tomaselli
 06/27: Louis DeCarolis
 06/30: Edward Maruggi

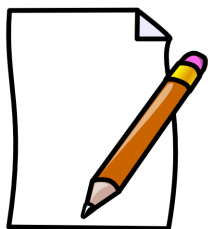


...Sister Mickey Palucci, recovering from illness.
 ...Brother Tony Palucci, recovering from surgery.
 ...Sister Sandy Meleca, recovering from surgery.
 ...Sister Shirley Sculli, recovering after hospitalization.
 ...Sister Marilyn Sarkis, recovering from surgery.



Please keep Sister Jen Gugino and her family in your hearts and prayers as they mourn the loss of Brother Russ Gugino.

Our hearts also go out to Brother Tony Itoni from the Geneva lodge, for the loss of his brother.



Sister Jen Gugino asked me to share this with lodge members...

To you, my Brothers and Sisters of the Vincent Lombardi Lodge,

Please accept my sincere gratitude and appreciation on behalf of the entire family for the overwhelming support you showered us with throughout Russ's illness and bereavement. The expressions of love and support within the cards have filled our hearts with emotions. The attendance and prayer service at calling hours, beautifully expressed, created an atmosphere showing the respect and admiration you felt for this gentlemen, who was a faith filled, gentle man.

For many years we have been members of this society and you have continuously supported us throughout times of joy and sorrow. Always there for us. Throughout his life he gave to others and instilled values within us, creating a legacy that will live on. We are committed to do that. Within the donations to charities we will be remembering him within the works of Angels of Mercy and the scholarship at Our Lady of Mercy. We will always be supportive of the works of the Lodge as well.

As he has now joined our Marisa in Heaven, we are left with precious, wonderful memories of this wonderful man, who loved and lived life to the fullest. Love, Jen



Congratulations to our most recently initiated new members: **Brother Rick Amico, Brother Salvatore and Sister Vivian Sciortino, and Brother Angelo Coccia.**

Welcome!

Italian Americans Who Fought for Justice CSJ Report Sister Marjorie Focarazzo

Over the past couple of years we have fought to retain Columbus Day not only as part of our Italian Heritage, but as a major event in the finding of a new world and historical period marking the time period in which extensive overseas exploration emerged as a powerful factor in European culture and the beginning of globalization. Looking beyond the Age of Discover, we find there are many other people throughout the centuries of Italian heritage who have played an active role in the struggle for labor rights, gay and lesbian rights, human rights, and civil rights.

Angela Bambace became the first Italian immigrant woman to hold a position of leadership, vice-president, in the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union in 1955. Angela joined the shirtwaist factory operating sewing machines after graduating from high school. Workers were exposed to exploitative and dangerous conditions. When the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Association fought to unionize the shop, she participated in strikes and protests, and she became a labor activist. She expanded into the network of NYC garment organizers. She continued her fight to Maryland, Delaware, and West Virginia.

RoseAnn DeMoro is the executive director the nation's largest union and professional association of nurses. In the late 1970's she decided to join the Teamsters as a labor organizer, and in 1986 she joined the California Nurses Associated and helped it to become one of the most powerful unions in the country. In 2009, she was instrumental in the creation of National Nurses United, which represents 170,000 registered nurses. During her leadership, she has lead campaigns for limits on managed care abuses, expansion of Medicare to cover more patients, record improvements for registered nurses, and reforms on nurse-to-patient care.

Arturo Giovannitti was a poet and labor organizer, and in 1912, he and Joseph Ettor lead the Textile Mill Strike in Lawrence, Massachusetts. When a textile worker, Ana LoPizzo was killed during a clash with state militia, Joseph Caruso was charged with the murder, but Arturo and Joseph were charged with accessory, although they were not in the area at the time of the event. The trial gained international attention and in a closing statement to the jury, he spoke about his dedication to the ideals of the working class. All three were acquitted of the charges in Nov. 1912.

Viola Liuzzo was a civil rights activist killed by the KKK while driving home from the March on Selma in 1965. A smear campaign initiated by J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI ensued after learning a key FBI informant was in the car with her killers. The family received death threats and acts of violence were perpetuated on them physically, on their home and their property. May 1965 the killers were brought to trial. The FBI informant, Gary Thomas Rowe, Jr, was protected by the FBI, but the remaining individuals were charged with murder and federal civil rights violation. The three were found guilty and sentenced to ten years in prison, a landmark in southern legal history.

Carlo Tresca was an Italian born American anarchist, newspaper editor, and labor agitator. He placed himself at the forefront of the most significant labor strikes of the era. As an editor and journalist for several underground anarchist papers, he wrote scathing articles attacking labor agents, bankers, consular officials, and priests. He condemned Stalin's ideology, the liquidation of anarchists and other non-communists during the Spanish Civil War, but he saved his most zealous and fanatical reports on the Italian Fascist regime. This proved to be his greatest crusade which resulted in the Italian Ambassador to the US to request he be either deported or "silenced". Neither attempts were successful and when one paper was closed down, he started another.

Bruce Springsteen and Steven Van Zant have been champions for the working class. Springsteen and the E Street Band have put their support behind various social causes. Along with Steven Van Zant, they cancelled a 2016 North Carolina concert in protest of the anti-LGBT law.

We should all be angered by unfairness and injustices. We all see issues we think need changing, we want to change, or should be improved. Some of see ourselves as systemic reformers focusing on the larger picture. Systemic reformers are determined to organize and act on a larger scale wanting to eliminate racism, transform institutions for justice and equality, or wanting to eradicate poverty. For some it is more personal, building relationships with those who are less fortunate and empathizing deeply for how injustices may affect people on an individual level. They serve as allies or

Bella Lingua Award NYS Grand Lodge

To recognize and reward students excelling in Italian language courses, the OSIA New York State Grand Lodge Foundation made awards of \$500 to students in each of the OSIA districts in our state. Our District 8 winner was chosen, and was given her award at our last General Assembly meeting. Our winner was **Maranda Meisenzahl**. Maranda has taken Italian formally since 7th grade, but has been speaking it casually all her life with family. She has been to Italy twice, and plans to continue her Italian language education in college next year. At our meeting, she spoke to us beautifully in Italian. It is clear that Maranda has a deep love the Italian language and culture and we are proud to honor her with this award on behalf of the New York State Grand Lodge Foundation. Congratulations Maranda and good luck in your future endeavors!



STATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS Sister Marjorie Focarazzo

The New York Grand Lodge Foundation of the Order Sons of Italy in American offers a total 123 District Scholarships and 14 Statewide Undergraduate and Graduate awards to be distributed to 77 students at a special ceremony on June 10th. The qualifications for eligibility are a minimum of 85% average, evidence of scholarship and service, a New York resident, and of Italian heritage. Each student had to include an essay summarizing educational and career goals, school and community service, and the significance of their Italian heritage in no more than 350 words. District VIII has had the pleasure of receiving 17 applications from some of the brightest students graduating high school next month.

District Chairpersons met in late April to review statewide applications and to decide on the awards, not an easy task since we wished each student could walk away with an award. A state scholarship, Agnes Funk Memorial Award, was given to Justin Streicher, who will be graduating from Spencerport High School. Justin is valedictorian of his class and plans for a dual major in business and engineering. The other two awards are donated through our district. Jamie Huber will receive a combination award: the Richard Di Marco Sr. Scholarship donated by John Di Marco along with the Giambra Family Scholarship and the Paul and Cheryl Speranza Foundation Scholarship. Jamie will graduate from Webster Thomas High School and plans to study biochemistry and computer science at the University of Rochester, The Geneva Lodge #2397 Scholarship in Memory of Deceased Members in combination with the Guglielmo Marconi Lodge #154 Scholarship and Jane Lippa Memorial Scholarship goes to Stephen Fazio, a graduating senior at Geneva High School who will attend Georgia Tech to study electrical engineering.

It was a rewarding experience to read essays from students who have thought about their future and the path in achieving their goals, who have given back to their schools and communities in so many selfless ways, and who have realized how their cultural background and heritage have provided them with the tenacity and work ethic to bring their dreams and hopes to fruition. We wish all students the very best throughout their college careers and into the future.



A welcome surprise....
Sister Nancy Rubé

A few years ago, I was contacted by one of my cousins who asked if I would be willing to donate a sample of my DNA in an effort to identify the remains of our uncle. He was my mother's younger brother who had been stationed on the Battleship Oklahoma when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1942. After all possible identifications had been made of the Oklahoma crew members my uncle, Ensign William M. Manley and almost 400 others from the Oklahoma, were officially listed as Missing in Action. Their remains were interred in the National Cemetery of the Pacific, commonly referred to as "The Punch Bowl". My grandmother was devastated. In his memory she had an empty grave and marker placed in our family plot in Virginia. As a child growing up no one ever talked about Uncle Bill very much, but when they did I could tell it was very painful. Pearl Harbor happened before I was even born, so it really didn't mean very much to me.

At the time that my cousin asked me to do the DNA test that the Navy would provide, most of us didn't know what we do now about DNA testing. Because the test that the Navy uses has to be done on a descendant from the maternal side of the family, my brother and I were the only ones who could provide the needed DNA. I was hesitant at first, but my own interest in genealogy and the persistence of my cousin (who's own DNA was not eligible for testing) lead my brother and me to submit our DNA samples. Time passed, I never heard anything back, and I had pretty much forgotten about the whole thing. And then the surprise came.

Back in April my daughter Marisa called to tell me that she had received a message on Facebook from someone who claimed to be from the military and who was looking for me. The next day I was able to make contact with this person, and after a lot of careful questioning, he revealed that my uncle's remains had been identified using the DNA that I had submitted! He told me that they had been looking for me since last January and he really stressed how important it was for the military to identify the remains of as many MIA's as possible and to bring them home to their families. My uncle's status has now been officially changed from Missing in Action to Killed in Action. The Navy will escort his remains anywhere in the world that I choose to have him buried, and will also fly three of us to that location to attend a full military funeral. So sometime in the near future we will make the trip to properly lay my uncle's body to rest.

I'm telling this story to help people understand the process that the military is going through to identify the remains of all of our service men and women who have given their lives while defending our country and to show the power of science in helping with these identifications. We recently heard a similar story of the identification of one of our college friends who was shot down in Vietnam. Once identified, his remains were brought home and buried in Arlington National Cemetery with over 500 people from around the country attending.

I never knew Ensign William M. Thompson, but I'm so happy that after 75 years, he's finally home with his family. And I can just see my grandmother's and my mom's faces when they heard the news.

Fraud Awareness - The Monroe County Legislature wants you to know about these common scams:

1. **IRS Fraud:** Scammers may call or come to your house threatening a warrant for your arrest for unpaid taxes, or may try to gain access to your checking account or try to convince you to buy gift cards to "repay" the IRS. Please note, The IRS will not come to your house or call you on the phone regarding past years' taxes. Please note that if the IRS needed to get in touch with you, they would first send a notice through the mail. Also, the IRS would already have all relevant information, and would not be contacting you for account numbers or other personal information over the phone or through mail.
2. **Email Phishing:** An email will be received by an unknown account, possibly using another name. They may claim you have won money. Opening this email and clicking on attachments will let scammers into your account and give them access to secure information. Do not open emails from senders you do not know.
2. **Telemarketers:** Scammers will call you and if you answer, they will try to confirm your name. When you say "yes" when they verify your name, they record your voice to confirm things in your name in the future. Use caution when answering calls from people you do not know.
2. **Gift Cards/Money Orders:** Scammers may call and pose as the police. They say that a loved one has been arrested and needs money for bail. They will request payment in the form of money orders or gift cards. Do not pay them. Hang up and call the police department to verify.
2. **Postal Mail:** Scammers are known to take mail out of residential mailboxes. If this mail contains checks they are then able to access your checking account. Always send outgoing mail through a USPS mailbox to ensure it's safety.



**April Grapevine New Member
Initiation Night and Celebration of
Brother Joe Capogreco's 50 years
on the radio**



VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE OFFICERS

President
Vincent Giannantonio

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

Sentinel
Ronald Santoli

Trustees
Edward Groszewski
Luigi DiFilippo
Antonio Palucci
Marjorie Focarazzo
Lillian Bonanni

Immediate Past President
Joseph Rubé, MD

Chaplain
Patricia Galante

**District VIII State
Trustee**
Joseph Rubé

Chaplain Emeritus
Sister Carole Proia

Lodge Deputy
Anthony Idoni

District VIII State Deputy
Thomas Meleca

Past Presidents
Joseph Lusardi*
Thomas Laverne*
Louis Giambra*
Joseph Vazzana
John March*
Victor Bell*
Peter Cimino*
Sam Parese*
Cosmo Caceci*
Michael La Comba*
Shirley Sculli
Phillip Dattilo
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