



The Roar of the Lion

Marisa Rubé, editor
December 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we approach the end of 2016 it is time to reflect on the lodge's past year.

We have inducted many new members to our lodge and have made many memories along the way.

Every event organized this past year has been a success. That was all made possible due to the strong support of all our members. Thank you to all of our members who helped make those events so wonderful.



It's unbelievable that time has passed so quickly. Soon elections will be upon us. Anyone interested in seeking a position as a board member or an officer please see a member of the nominating committee. Elections will be held in January and the installation brunch will be held on Sunday, March 19, at the Burgundy Basin Inn.

Speaking of elections, congratulations to our lodge members who were successful in their campaigns for office. It shows commitment to our community and service to our people.

Sincere gratitude goes out to the Grand Lodge Foundation for their recent \$5000 donation to the Wilmot Cancer Center at Strong Hospital in our dear Jennifer Rubé's honor. We know many good deeds will be completed with this money. The check will be presented to the center by Brother Joe Rubé on Thursday, December 8, at 11 o'clock.

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

Bona Natalie e Felice anno nuovo
Peace
President Vince



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Calendar of Events.....2
- Members Corner.....3
- News and Info.....4
- CSJ Report.....5
- Recipes.....6
- Event Pictures.....7



Rochester Italian American Community Events

December 1, 2016 11:30 am: Luncheon Show -
Country Holiday, Italian American Community
Center (IACC)

December 2, 2016 6:30 pm: General Meeting
Members Only (Election), Italian American Sport
Club

December 7, 2016 6:00 pm: Progressive Dinner,
Casa Italiana Of Nazareth College

December 8, 2016 12:00 pm: Thursday Luncheon,
Italian American Sport Club

December 10, 2016 12:30pm: FIG Christmas
Luncheon, Grapevine Restaurant

December 10, 2016 6:30 pm: IASC Christmas
Gala, Italian American Sport Club

December 11, 2016 6:30 pm: Christmas Concert
with Joe Falzone, Italian American Sport Club

December 17, 2016 6:00 pm: IACC 25th Annual
Christmas Gala, Italian American Community
Center (IACC)

December 18, 2016 6:30 pm: Annual Kids with
Santa, Italian American Sport Club

December 22, 2016 12:00 pm: Thursday
Luncheon, Italian American Sport Club

December 31, 2016 6:30 pm: IASC Annual New
Year's Party, Italian American Sport Club

December 31, 2016 6:30 pm: Ring in New Year's,
Italian American Community Center (IACC)

Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 2016 Calendar

December 1st 2016 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

**December 8th 2016 @ 7pm: General Assembly
Meeting**

December 3rd, 2016: Lodge Christmas Party Lodge on
the Green (Rochester, NY)

January 5th, 2017 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

**January 12th, 2017 @ 7pm: General Assembly
Meeting**

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



East Rochester Community Events

December 10th, 9am: Advent Craft Show: East Rochester
School Campus, 200 Woodbine Avenue. Crafts made by vendors
from all over the county. Proceeds to benefit the East Rochester
Community Resource Center.

**December 10th, 10am-6pm: East Rochester Christmas
Festival:** Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, the East
Rochester School District and the Town/Village. This event
celebrates the season of Joy and Happiness & Family. Providing
horse drawn carriage rides, caroling and a visit from Santa & Mrs.
Claus and much, much more.



12/01: Charles Schiano Jr
12/03: Mary Lou Cadena
12/04: Quintino DiCesare
12/06: Franca Cinelli
12/07: David DiNicola
12/09: Dr. Kenneth Nudo
12/09: Marisa Rubé
12/11: Charlene Dodgson
12/11: Paolo Polignone

12/15: Ezio Bonanni
12/15: James Vazzana
12/17: MaryAnn Koons
12/19: Becky DiFilippo
12/20: Eva Fantauzzo
12/20: Jennie Gugino
12/21: Paula Santirocco
12/23: Dr. Maurice Palucci
12/26: Dr. Ralph Doerr

DeCarolis Truck Rental was honored by the Rochester Business Journal as one of their Rochester Top 100 ! DeCarolis Truck Rental is the 9th largest private employer in the area. Congratulations Brother Paul, Brother Louis, and Sister Annette DeCarolis! Here is a link to the RBJ article describing the company and why it was chosen as one of Rochester's top 100: <http://www.rbj.net/article.asp?aID=22201>

President Vince Giannantonio was recognized by the Monroe County Legislature this November for his service to the Rochester community. Several of our members went to the ceremony to celebrate this honor. Congratulations President Vince!



Book Review

By: Sister Marjorie Focarazzo

For the last few years Sal LaGumina has been working on a new book that is now published in hardback and also available on-line. The Office of Strategic Services (OSS) and Italian Americans: The Untold History is an important work on a little known vital activity and contributions on behalf of the Allied victory in World War II. Italian Americans fluent in the language and customs became an integral part of intelligence operations working behind enemy lines. Priceless military information was obtained that helped to defeat the Axis powers. These were men who parachuted into frozen mountain tops to link up with Italian guerilla units in northern Italy or hovered in small patrol torpedo boats and row boats across the Mediterranean Sea in pitch black darkness to destroy railroad junctions.

Stefano Luconi, University of Naples L'Orientale, Italy states this book offers evidence of Italian American loyalty to the United States during wartime. It casts a new light on the military campaign in Italy, stressing the importance of US assisted partisan warfare against the Germans. It succeeded in saving the country's art treasures. It spread American democratic values among the anti-Fascist forces.

Authors, Jefferson Morley and Winston Scott, maintain the OSS was instrumental in US victory and was the predecessor to the CIA. Italian Americas were tantamount every step of the way in its success despite hostility against them.

Professor Emeritus of History, Luciano Lorizzo with the State University of NY at

Oswego, adds that most of us are unaware of the contributions Italian Americans made to the OSS. While many Americans viewed Italian immigrants as dangerous, there were a large number secretly working and willing to put their lives on the line to carry out infiltration and raids behind the enemy line.

Salvatore LaGumina is Professor Emeritus and Director of the Center for Italian American Studies at Nassau Community College. He has been president of the American Italian Historical Association, has written dozens of scholarly articles and the author, co-author, editor, and co-editor of twenty books on the Italian American Experience. He has received the Pietro DiDonato/John Fante Literary Award.

Brother Tom Meleca would like to invite you to the FIG Christmas Luncheon at the Grapevine Restaurant, Saturday Dec 10th 12:30 pm \$ 20.00 per person.

See FIG Flyer for details. RSVP soon to Tom or Sandy at 315 986-1097 or tomsanmeleca@hotmail.com.

FIG stands for Friends of Italian Genealogy. If you are curious about genealogy or want to enjoy a great lunch with a great group of people come join us, many of our FIG members are also Lodge members. Tom says bring a friend or two.

2017 is an election year for our lodge!

All council positions are up for election, and you may run for a position, even if it is currently filled. However, we also have several open positions, including Mistress/Master of Cermonies, Sentinel, and Orator. If you are interested in seeking a position on our

Council, please contact one of our nominations committee members as soon as possible. Nominations committee members are: Sister Linda Agnello, Brother Bill Agnello, Sister Bonnie Cottone, and Brother Ross Cottone. Elections will be held in January.

National OSIA Scholarships and Leadership Grants Available

Application Deadline February 28th, 2017

Through the Sons of Italy Foundation (SIF) with hundreds of thousands of family members located in all fifty states and the District of Columbia, the Order Sons of Italy in America (OSIA) has awarded nearly \$59 million in scholarships to date.

In past years, the SIF has offered 10 to 12 merit-based scholarships (National Leadership Grants), ranging from \$4,000 to \$25,000, in a nationwide competition. These figures and the number of scholarships may vary according to funding each year.

General Eligibility: U.S. citizens of Italian descent (at least one Italian or Italian-American grandparent) enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program at a four-year, accredited academic institution for the 2016 Fall term. Previous SIF scholarship winners are not eligible. (Please note: Additional eligibility requirements may apply to specific scholarships.)

More information can be found at:

<https://www.osia.org/students/scholarships.php>

CSJ REPORT
Sr. Marjorie Focarazzo

FIGHTING BIGOTRY AND HATE

The Oxford Dictionary defines bigotry as intolerance towards those who hold different opinions from oneself. Fear and anger breed bigotry. The urge to respond to bigots with bigotry is natural, but it's misguided. It's a fool's defense mechanism, and it is a failed attempt at rationalizing our response(s) towards hatred, malevolence, meanness, and cruelty. "This person exhibited malice toward me. This person is one of those kinds of people. Therefore all of those kinds of people will exhibit malice toward me in the future, so be on guard!" All ethnic, religious, and races have systematic flaws that promote violence and/or bigotry. We notice that such happenings may be trendy. Each of us should work to eradicate the root problems, and we should fight to see that change takes place. Do we want to go about our lives cautiously until attitudes evolve? Every situation should and must be treated as an individual phenomenon and each person we encounter as the single human being that they are. They are not the other people who look like them.

Prejudice and bigotry against groups and individuals because of race, religion, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, and other differences has been prevalent throughout American history. During the 20th Century we saw progress in outlawing discrimination, but stereotypes and unequal treatment persists. When our biases and bigotry motivates an unlawful act, it is considered a hate crime. Race, religion, and ethnicity inspire most hate crimes, but hate can wear many faces. It can tear families and communities apart.

The FBI reports between 7,000 and 8,000 hate crime incidents per year, but many more go unreported. Often due to lack of training to recognize or investigate hate crimes, incidents are not prosecuted correctly. When we do nothing apathy will be interpreted as acceptance — by the perpetrators, the public and, worse, the victims. Decent people must take action, otherwise hate persists. Hate is an open attack on tolerance and decency and must be countered with acts of goodness. Sitting home with your virtue does no good. In the face of hate, silence is deadly. Hate is an attack on a community's health and tears society along racial, ethnic, gender and religious lines. Hate escalates. Take seriously the smallest hint of hate — even what appears to be simple name calling. But the good news is that people are fighting hate all over the country. They are standing up to promote tolerance and inclusion with greater numbers and with stronger voices. One person, acting from conscience and love, is able to neutralize bigotry. Imagine, then, what an entire community, working together, might do.



A Gift from God
My Christmas Tree
By Brother Lou Giambra

(Before his passing, Brother Lou was a long time member and past president of the Vincent Lombardi Lodge)

I had a mental picture of a perfect Christmas tree; 6 foot tall and filled with branches. When I had all of my money together I headed for the Christmas tree farm. When I arrived I was surprised to hear, "We're all sold out". My heart fell. What do I do now? In the corner was a small tree, not what I had in mind, with a few boughs and some had seen better days. But, the farmer said, "It's my last tree and no one wanted to buy it, so if you can use it, you can have it." Not the tree I had pictured, but as they say, "Better than nothing".

I put the tree up, but not next to a window. A tree like that you hide from your neighbors. I was ashamed of my tree. Why did I say yes I'll take it home? I put the water in the base and decorated the branches. Before I turned out the lights I said a prayer; "God bless all the children and fill their stockings on Christmas Eve". I look in the corner of the room and said "God bless my Christmas tree".

When I awoke the next morning I looked in the corner at my tree. Did it grow during the night? Was my prayer answered? It actually looked better! If I put more tinsel on the branches, another set of lights, maybe it will look like the tree in my dreams.

I began to enjoy my tree. It could have been my prayer. Does God care about a beat up treat? Every day the tree looked better, it seemed to belong in my living room. Why be ashamed? I moved the tree to its proper place in front of the window. It looked pretty good!

From this episode in my life, what did I learn? When you meet a person in life, don't look at his outward appearance. We all have an inner side which tells who you really are. The small and poor looking tree gave me as much happiness as a large full tree would have given me.

It's not the size or the fullness, it's the inner beauty and what you choose to enjoy.

Italian Christmas Cookies

Ricotta Cookies



INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 2 cups sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 carton (15 ounces) ricotta cheese
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking soda

FROSTING:

- 1/4 cup butter, softened
- 3 to 4 cups confectioners' sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3 to 4 tablespoons milk
- Colored sprinkles

DIRECTIONS

In a bowl, cream butter and sugar. Add the eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Beat in ricotta and vanilla. Combine flour, salt and baking soda; gradually add to creamed mixture.

Drop by rounded teaspoonfuls 2 in. apart onto greased baking sheets. Bake at 350° for 10-12 minutes or until lightly browned. Remove to wire racks to cool.

In a large bowl, butter, confectioners' sugar, vanilla and enough milk to reach spreading consistency. Frost cooled cookies and immediately decorate with sprinkles. Store in the refrigerator. Yield: 8-1/2 dozen.

Pignoli Cookies



INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups pine nuts
- 1 cup confectioners' sugar
- 1/4 cup almond paste
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 large egg
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Process 3/4 cup pine nuts, the sugar, almond paste, and vanilla in a food processor until fine crumbs form. Add egg; pulse to combine. Add flour, baking powder, and salt; process just until dough comes together.

Roll dough into 3/4-inch balls. Roll balls in remaining 1 1/4 cups pine nuts, gently pressing to coat. Space 2 inches apart on parchment-lined baking sheets.

Bake until cookies begin to turn golden brown, about 20 minutes. Let cool completely on sheets on wire racks.

2016 Papa Antolini's Turkey Raffle



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
Bonnie Cottone

Mistress of Ceremony
Nancy Rubé

Sentinel
Ross Cottone

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
Joseph Berta
Joseph Rubé
Jennifer Rubé*



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