



The Roar of the Lion

Marisa Rubé, editor
September 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It's hard to believe that summer is almost over and fall is fast approaching. With the end of summer, our main event of the year is only a little over a month away. I'm referring, of course, to our Christopher Columbus Italian American Heritage Awards Dinner, to be held on October 20th. As you know, it is our biggest fundraiser. The money earned at this event finances lodge activities, our charities, and our scholarship program. I hope to see many lodge members participate and attend the dinner. If, however, you cannot join us, consider supporting this event by purchasing the 50/50 raffle ticket that came with your invitation, an ad in our ad book, or by making a donation to our scholarship fund. Our honorees this year are fellow lodge members. Please show your respect for the work that they do by supporting them.



The lodge is also involved in other upcoming events in October. One such event is the Italian Civic League's Columbus Day Luncheon at the Diplomat Party House on October 9th. Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased from Brother Tom Meleca or myself. Please show your support of the ICL by attending this event. Also in October, an event to honor a long-standing radio personality who is also our lodge member - Joe Capogreco. Joe has been the voice of the Italian Carousel for the last fifty years. This event is taking place on Friday, October 13th at the Italian American Community Center. Tickets are \$35.00 and this price includes dinner and musical entertainment. Please see me to purchase tickets. Let's all show our support for Brother Joe and his long and distinguished career.

Our third annual pie sale is in progress now and ends on November 1st so be sure to get your orders in now! As you know, the delicious pies come from Leo's bakery.

I would like to make this fall season membership drive time. Before the Christmas holiday I would like to initiate at least 10 new members. Let's all do our best to bring people in. We all know someone we can ask!

Remember October is Italian heritage month, celebrate your culture and heritage.

Peace

Fraternally

President Vincent

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Rochester Italian American Community Events

September 7, 12pm: Thursday Luncheon - Italian American Sport Club

September 7, 6pm: Power Point - Tour of Sicily - Casa Italiana Of Nazareth College

September 9, 9am: Casino Day Trip - St. Nicholas Society

September 10, 6pm: Sicily Tour - Informational Meeting - Casa Italiana Of Nazareth College

September 13, 12pm: Wednesday Luncheon - Italian American Community Center (IACC)

September 14, 2:30 pm: Seneca Niagara Casino - Caltanissetta Society

September 14, 5pm - IACC Food Truck Rodeo - Italian American Community Center (IACC)

September 14, 6pm: Mascioli Conference - Casa Italiana Of Nazareth College

September 18, 9am: Golf Tournament - 2 man scramble - Caltanissetta Society

September 21, 12pm: Thursday Luncheon - Italian American Sport Club

September 23, 6:30 pm: Lobster Clambake - Italian American Sport Club

September 24, 12pm: Clambake - Sicilian Sport Club

September 24, 2pm: St Padre Pio Feast Day Mass & Dinner - St. Padre Pio Institute

September 27, 12pm: Wednesday Luncheon - Italian American Community Center (IACC)

September 29, 6pm: ITALEO Annual Awards Banquet - ITALEO Italian American Law Enforcement Officers

September 30, 5pm: St. Nicholas Festa - St. Nicholas Society

Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 Calendar - 2017/18

September 7th, 2017 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

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

September 14th, 2017: Pie Sale Begins!

October 5th, 2017 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

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

October 20th, 2017 @ 6pm: Christopher Columbus Italian American Heritage Dinner - Burgundy Basin Inn (Bushnell's Basin).

November 1st, 2017: Pie sale ends - all orders must be in by this date

November 2nd, 2017 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

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

November 22nd, 2017: Pie Pick Up - Eyer Building (East Rochester)

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

January 14th, 2018 Time and Location TBD: Holiday Party

February 23rd, 2018 Time TBD: Reverse Raffle Dinner - Burgundy Basin (Bushnell's Basin). Raffle Tickets \$100 (includes dinner), Dinner tickets \$30

March 18th, 2018 Time & Location TBD: Winter Clambake

April 22nd, 2018 Time & Location TBD: Cibi Dinner

May 26th, 2018: East Rochester Memorial Day Parade

****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

September 17th: Hofstra Italian Experience Festival (Hempstead, NY)

September 30th @ 12pm: Gift of Sight Awards Luncheon (Woodbury, NY)

November 11th @ 11am: Garibaldi Meucci Museum Fundraiser (Staten Island, NY)

October 27th-29th: Supreme Lodge Student Summit (Washington, D.C.)



September

6th: Pat Bernunzio

8th: Mickey Palucci

9th: Ross Cottone

14th: Joanne Napoli

18th: Marie Yacono

22nd: Luigi DiFilippo

25th: Sylvia Vazzana

27th: Marilyn Sarkis

28th: Sal Cutaia

We missed a birthday in our last newsletter, but wanted to make sure to send our good birthday wishes to **Brother John Pecora**, who celebrated his birthday on August 2nd.



...Our best wishes for a speedy recovery go out to Sister Linda Agnello, Sister Rose Moscato, Brother Ted DeSoto, Sister Eunice McArthy, Hon Brother Donald Marks, and Sister Lillian Siracusa, all recovering from recent illnesses.

....And best wishes to Brother David DiNicola as he continues his recovery from surgery.



Sending our love during this difficult time to Brother Tom Meleca and Sister Sandy Meleca, Brothers Richard and Michael Meleca, Sister Angela and Brothers Stephen and Tony Cataldi as they mourn the loss of their sister-in-law/aunt, Lucy Meleca.



Congratulations to Brother Franklin D'Aurizio on the marriage of his daughter!



At the 2017 National OSIA Convention it was announced that we are now officially doing business as **Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America!** A company is said to be "doing business as" when the name under which they operate their business differs from its legal, registered name. In this case, Order Sons of Italy in America is still our legal name, but we can now also legally refer to our organization as the **Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America.**



A small pink cooler with a white top was left behind at our annual member picnic. If this cooler is yours, you can claim it through Sister Sandy Meleca or President Vince.



Dear Members,
We need your Help! The success of our lodge is in your hands. Our organization needs to grow as our past founders & membership envisioned. We need new members with new ideas that will help us continue into the future.

You know the values we as Italian-Americans support and how family is at our core. This is the basis on which the Vincent Lombardi Lodge was formed and we still strive for today. What makes our Lodge family great is that we accept under our umbrella a diversity of people & ideas.

With that thought in mind go tell your many friends & family about the Vincent Lombardi Lodge, Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America. Talk to them, get their contact info and we will supply you or them with a membership packet for them to review, then as their sponsor just follow up to complete the process.

If each member brought in even one new member we would easily double our membership and ensure our future.

Sincerely,
Brother Tom Meleca - Membership Chairperson

LUIGI DEL BIANCO Chief Carver of Mount Rushmore

(by Sister Marjorie
Focarazzo)

Mt. Rushmore was completed in October 1941. After more than 25 years, the National Parks Service has finally acknowledged that Luigi Del Bianco was the chief carver. On Saturday, September 16, 2017 a long overdue plaque will be dedicated in honor of Luigi's legacy.

Grandson, Lou Del Bianco, chose the picture used for the bookmark sponsored by CSJ. He is quite ecstatic with the concept of the bookmark in honor of his Grandfather Luigi. He gave high praise to New York CSJ for its efforts on so many levels.

“He is worth any three men I could find in America, for this particular type of work”
~Gutzon Borglum, Designer of Mount Rushmore

“Leaving my father out of Rushmore is like talking about the Yankees and leaving out Joe DiMaggio”
~Caesar Del Bianco

“Bianco was one of the most competent men ever to work on the mountain...”
~Gilbert Fite, from his book Mount Rushmore

COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE



LUIGI DEL BIANCO Chief Carver on Mount Rushmore

Luigi Del Bianco was born aboard a ship Near La Havre, France on May 8, 1892. His parents, Vincenzo and Osvalda, were returning from the United States to Italy. When he was a small boy hanging around the wood carving shop of his father in Meduno, Pordenone province, men of the village used to say, “How curious the little one is!” Vincenzo Del Bianco became convinced that his son was interested in carving and had more than ordinary ability. He took the eleven-year-old boy to Austria to study under a skilled stone carver. After two years in Vienna, Luigi studied in Venice. When cousins in Barre, Vermont wrote that skilled carvers were needed, seventeen-year old Luigi boarded the *La Touraine* out of Naples and headed for America.

World War I broke out in 1914 and Luigi Del Bianco returned to Italy to fight for his country. He emigrated back to Barre, VT. in 1920 and after a year of work as a stonecutter, he settled in Port Chester, NY where he met his wife, Nicoletta Cardarelli. Their marriage resulted in the births of sons Silvio, Vincent, and Caesar.

Luigi Del Bianco's brother-in-law, Alfonso Scafa, introduced him to Mount Rushmore designer Gutzon Borglum. “Bianco”, as Borglum affectionately called him, began working at Borglum's Stamford studio and the association of the two men continued until Borglum's death in 1941. Throughout the 1920's Luigi Del Bianco assisted Borglum with Stone Mountain in Georgia and the Wars of America Memorial

Borglum used him as a model for twenty of the figures on the Newark sculpture.

In 1933, Borglum hired Luigi Del Bianco to be chief stone carver on the Mount Rushmore National Memorial. Del Bianco's job was to carve the refinement of expression or detail in the faces. Del Bianco carved the life-like eyes of Abraham Lincoln. In a 1966 interview with the Herald Statesman in Yonkers, NY, he said about carving the eyes “I could only see from this far what I was doing, but the eye of Lincoln had to look just right from many miles distant. I know every line and ridge, each small bump and all the details of that head so well.” He further stated “I would work at Mount Rushmore even without pay, if necessary. It was a great privilege granted me.”

Luigi Del Bianco singlehandedly saved the sculptured face of Thomas Jefferson by patching a crack in the lip with a foot deep piece of granite held in place by pins - the only patch on the whole sculpture, and one that is hard to detect even close up. Gutzon Borglum so valued the work of Del Bianco that it is not surprising he entrusted the task to no one else.

By 1941, funding for the memorial ran out and the breakout of World War II ended any further carving. Luigi Del Bianco returned to Port Chester and his stone cutting shop where he carved approximately five hundred tombstones out of rough Vermont marble.

Meduno, Italy takes great pride in their native son and has included many photos and memorabilia of Luigi Del Bianco and his time at Mount Rushmore in their local museum. Furthermore, on June 21, 2014 residents of Port Chester and beyond held a memorial unveiling honoring Luigi Del Bianco. National Park Service dedicated a long overdue plaque to Luigi Del Bianco, Chief Carver on the Mount Rushmore



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Congratulations to our 2017 Scholarship Winners!!



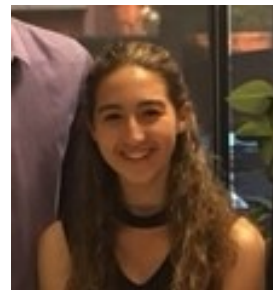
Vincent Lombardi Lodge Scholarship - Jacob Lynch

Jacob graduated from East Ridge High School. He is attending Clarkson University and plans to pursue a degree in Engineering Management.



Jennifer Rubé Memorial Scholarship - Natasha Dennison

Natasha is a graduate of Penfield High School. She is attending Kent State University and plans to pursue a degree in nursing.



Rubé Family Scholarship - Paige Tambasco

Paige is a graduate of Rush Henrietta High School. She is attending SUNY Fredonia and plans to pursue a degree in Elementary Education.



Past Honorees Scholarship - Matthew Gasbarre

Matthew is a graduate of Fairport High School. He is attending Nazareth College and plans to pursue a degree in Physical Therapy.

Local winners of Grand Lodge Scholarships:

Richard DiMarco Sr State Scholarship donated by Richard DiMarco Jr, The Giambra Family, and the Paul and Cheryl Speranza Foundation: Jamie Huber

Jamie Huber is a graduate of Webster Thomas High School and will attend the University of Rochester this year to study Biochemistry and Computer Science.

Agnes Funk Memorial Award: Justin Streicher

Geneva Lodge #2397 Scholarship in Memory of Deceased Members and the Guglielmo Marconi Lodge #154 Scholarship and the Jane Lippa Memorial Scholarship: Stephen Fazio

2017 Scholarship Awards Night



2017 Summer Picnic Sausage Making



**2017 Summer Picnic
Eyer Park**



2017 Summer Picnic Continued



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

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Antonio Palucci
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Immediate Past President
Joseph Rubé, MD

Chaplain
Patricia Galante

**District VIII State
Trustee**
Joseph Rubé

Chaplain Emeritus
Sister Carole Proia

Lodge Deputy
Anthony Idoni

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Sam Parese*
Cosmo Caceci*
Michael La Comba*
Shirley Sculli
Phillip Dattilo
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Joseph Rubé
Jennifer Rubé*



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