



### 2009-2010 OFFICERS INSTALLATION BRUNCH & CEREMONY

Please join us on Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009 as the newly elected officers of the Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 are installed in their board positions for 2009-2010.

Brunch will be held at 12 noon at Midvale Country Club in Penfield. We will have our own private room for brunch followed by the installation ceremony. Reservations are \$20 per person and all family and friends are welcome to join us. Please call Jennifer at 244-8437 for more information.

### 2009 EVENT SUGGESTIONS

Lodge members made recommendations for events they would like to see in 2009. Some are social events and others are fundraisers. If you are interested in forming a committee with other lodge members to organize one of these events please let President Joe know.

- Pig Roast
- Adult Summer
- Reverse Raffle
- Card Party
- Wine & Cheese Party
- Bus Trip to Lewiston / Our Lady of Fatima Shrine
- Wineries / Esperanza Bus Trip
- Christmas Party w/Santa for Kids

### ITALIAN GENEALOGY PROJECT

Members that were in attendance at the February General Assembly meeting received a packet of worksheets for an upcoming Italian Genealogy Project which will be part of the April General Assembly meeting. Sister Nancy Rubé will be going over basic strategies for researching your Italian roots after the regular general meeting. If you wish to participate in the project in April, please start filling in information on the worksheets and bring the packet with you to the April meeting.

If you weren't able to attend the last meeting and wish to participate in April, please contact Sister Jennifer at 244-8437 and she will mail out the worksheets to you so that you can begin filling them in.

### 2009 CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS DINNER DANCE

Sister Eunice, the chairperson for our annual Christopher Columbus Dinner Dance has set a date for **Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009** at the Diplomat Party House. Please mark your calendars for this very special event. More details will follow in next month's newsletter along with the list of this year's award winners.

We hope you will make plans to bring family and friends as we celebrate our biggest event of the year.

March 2009

With February coming to an end (and hopefully Winter soon after) and our Installation Brunch just around the corner, I reflect back on our Lodge's last six months. As your "Interim" President I felt I was given an opportunity not available to most new incoming Presidents and that is the opportunity to have a "practice run". I've received a great amount of support from all of you and the induction of our thirteen new members was the highlight of that period. I believe we all will benefit from your participation and enthusiasm in helping our Lodge grow and be a vibrant part of our community, just as I hope you will benefit and enjoy being a part of our great Lodge.

Hopefully once the weather improves and our new Board is in place we will be able to affect some changes that will reinvigorate the interest in participation in Lodge activities. We had a good discussion at our February meeting with suggestions on activities for the coming year. For those not present at that meeting I am anxious to hear your thoughts on activities. As I mentioned in the past, if you have an idea and are willing to run with it, we will help you from the Board level in a positive way. Some functions are already in place but will need some help from our membership.

One critical area in need is for someone or ones to step forward and take over the Ad Book solicitations, which is our largest fund raiser of the year. I've heard much criticism about how little we've made in the past few years as compared to years past. Times and the economy have changed - but I believe our community is generous and our cause is worthy – and I know there are members out there who will accept this challenge.

Stella from the Casa is very interested in continuing and enhancing our Lodge's relation to the Casa and has offered to do a few presentations for our group. We have several writers, educators, genealogy members who I'm sure would like to share their expertise and encourage their colleagues to also do some presentations. So welcome all to our new year-I hope you will all join me and your other Board members at our Installation Brunch on Sunday, March 8, at Midvale Country Club.

Fraternally, Brother Joe

# ITALIAN COMMUNITY NEWS

## AP ITALIAN COURSES

When the College Board announced in spring 2008 the discontinuation of several AP courses, the College Board's trustees indicated that if external funders came forward to supplement the College Board's investment in AP Italian, the program could be sustained. A heroic effort was made, led largely by the Italian Language Foundation's leaders Dr. Margaret Cuomo and Louis Tallarini, true champions of Italian language and cultural studies in the United States.

However, the valiant effort to raise the needed funds was confronted head-on by the unforeseen challenge of the current economic situation, which appears to have restricted organizations', corporations', and governmental abilities to partner with the College Board to save AP Italian.

**Accordingly, with great sadness it was announced that AP Italian will be suspended following this current, 2008-09 academic year, and will not be offered in the 2009-10 academic year.**

## ITALIAN LANGUAGE

Learn Italian Quick and Easy Online with BOCES

Learn Italian in a fast and easy way with a BOCES Online Italian Course. You can ask directions, book a room, order a meal and much more. Cultural notes are included throughout the course to help you learn more about Italy and the Italian culture. This course will prepare you to speak basic Italian and promises to enrich your experiences while traveling in Italy. Cost \$95. For more information: (585) 383-2250.

## COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Fighting for a positive image of Italian Americans

**Chris Berman, ESPN Anchor** – On December 21, 2008, upon reporting the NFL's highlights of the day, that included a move by Sabby Piscatelli, Berman changed his persona and language to a "Brooklyn Italian accent" skillfully attaching an uneducated, uncultured Italian American dialect to Piscatelli's name. This verbal diatribe was aired nationally. Further, an article in the New York Post by Phil Mushnick, entitled Italian Americans are Still Fair Game for a Cheap Laugh, correctly reported Berman's stereotypical and ethnic slur, which was neither entertaining nor amusing. A letter was sent to ESPN protesting Berman's actions. A letter was also sent to Mushnick of the Post, praising him for his positive article.

**The Mafia Boss** - another game posted on the Internet, that invites players to play the game based on real Mafia life and enter the The Mafia Boss World, where you will become a boss of a crime gang giving the choice of collecting money from casino's etc.. The game was produced by a company based in Cyprus and offered on the internet. We wrote to this company stating our views, asking that the game be withdrawn. Much to our dismay, the game is still widely advertised on the Internet. How do we combat this problem-- do not visit the website or play the game!

**Taxpayer.com** – This was an ad on television, advertising a tax service, only known as Taxpayer.com. The scene depicted two obviously Italian American men, in their sleeveless undershirts, touting the wonders of this tax service in Brooklynese. When we visited the web site, we found that it was based in Canada. We did email them indicating our displeasure with the ethnic undertones of their ad.

# ITALIAN COMMUNITY NEWS



## CARNEVALE IN VENICE

*Carnevale*, also known as carnival or *mardi gras*, is celebrated in Italy and many places around the world 40 days before Easter, a final party before Ash Wednesday and the restrictions of Lent.

*Carnevale* in Italy is a huge winter festival celebrated with parades, masquerade balls, entertainment, music, and parties. Children throw confetti at each other. Mischief and pranks are also common during *Carnevale*, hence the saying *A Carnevale Ogni Scherzo Vale*, anything goes at carnival.

*Carnevale* has roots in pagan festivals and traditions and as is often the case with traditional festivals was adapted to fit into the Catholic rituals. Although carnival is actually one date, in Venice and some other places in Italy the carnival celebrations and parties may begin a couple weeks before.

Masks, *maschere*, are an important part of the *carnevale* festival and Venice is the best city for traditional carnival masks. Carnival masks are sold year round and can be found in many shops in Venice, ranging from cheap masks to elaborate and expensive masks. Walking through the streets of Venice, it's a pleasure to view the variety of masks on display in shop windows.



# ITALIAN COMMUNITY NEWS

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- **March 8, 2009**

Sons of Italy Officers' Installation Brunch – 12noon at Midvale Country Club (info 244-8437)

- **March 8, 2009**

Italian Opera Concert – 4:00PM at Linehan Chapel Nazareth College. Sponsored by Casa Italiana (info 389-2468)

- **March 15, 2009**

Italian Mass & St. Joseph's Table – 3:00PM – IACC

- **March 21, 2008**

Fish Dinner – St. Padre Pio Institute – 6:00PM (info 254-9020)

- **April 5, 2009**

Annual Easter Egg Hunt – 10:00AM – IACC Reservations required. (info 594-8882)

- **April 2, 2009**

OSIA Board Meeting – 7:00PM Casa Italiana (info 461-1181)

- **April 8, 2009**

OSIA General Assembly Meeting – 7:00PM Casa Italiana (info 461-1181) Basic Genealogy – Beginning steps in helping you trace your ancestors.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETINGS

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NO MARCH GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING THE INSTALLATION BRUNCH WILL TAKE ITS PLACE. APRIL'S MEETING WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY DUE TO THE EASTER HOLY WEEK ACTIVITIES.**

The next general assembly meeting will be held on **Wednesday April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009** at the Casa Italiana located on the Nazareth College Campus at 4245 East Avenue. The college is located about half a mile from the Village of Pittsford on Route 96/East Avenue. Enter the campus at the entrance with the traffic light (South Campus Drive). Turn immediately into Parking Lot A on the right as you enter the campus. On the right you will note the Casa Hispana building and then the Casa Italiana building. Take the lower walk to the right of the building which leads directly to the meeting room. The meeting will begin at 7:00PM sharp and all members are welcome. Please Note: the meeting room is handicapped accessible.

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday wishes go out to....

3 / 4	Mary Stewart
3/7	Mercie DiGiacomo
3/11	John Manion
3/20	John Ninfo
3/26	Marcella Cavalier
3/27	Joseph LoCurto
3/28	Flora Fustaino
3/28	Raymond Piarulli
3/30	Shirley Sculli
3/31	Donald Mark

*Happy Easter!*

# VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

For many of us, Lodge social events wouldn't be the same without Brother Tony's homemade limoncello. We've found several recipes where you can use this delicious drink.

## TROPICAL FREEZE

- 3 oz limoncello
- 3 oz tangerine juice
- 1 oz strawberry juice
- 3 oz pineapple juice

Prepare in a shaker with ice; pour into a large tumbler glass, Garnish with a skewer of pineapple, kiwi and strawberry.

## LIMONCELLO PASTA

- Salt
- 1 pound 2-foot long pasta (regular spaghetti may be substituted)
- 1 clove garlic, crushed
- 1 1/4 cups heavy cream
- 1/4 cup limoncello *or* white wine
- 2 lemons, 1 peeled and 1 zested
- 1 cup basil leaves (loosely packed), torn
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 1 cup shredded Parmigiano Reggiano cheese

Place a large pot of salted water over high heat and bring to a boil. Once boiling, add the pasta and cook according to package directions. Drain and reserve the pasta in the cooking pot.

While the pasta is cooking, combine garlic, cream, limoncello or white wine and lemon peel over medium-high heat in a medium size saucepot. Bring the mixture to a gentle boil, then reduce the heat and simmer until slightly thickened, about 10 minutes. Remove the garlic clove and lemon peel from the sauce and discard.

Add the sauce to the pot with the reserved pasta along with the torn basil and grated lemon zest. Season with salt and freshly ground black pepper and toss to combine.

Sprinkle the Parmigiano Reggiano over the pasta and serve with roasted tomato crostini or other bread.

## MOONBEAM COCKTAIL

- 1 oz white rum
- 1 oz Crème de Cassis
- 1 oz limoncello
- 2 oz champagne

Pour the ingredients into a cocktail glass in the same order as above. Garnish with half wheel of lemon.

## RISO A LIMONE

12 oz of rice (small grain variety)  
3 oz of butter  
3 tbsp of single or full cream  
2 oz Limoncello  
Parmesan cheese  
1 Sorrentine lemon  
vegetable stock

Stir the rice into the butter and gradually add the vegetable stock so as to cook it gently; at the end of the cooking add the grated Parmesan cheese and a little single cream; it is important to vary the heat so that the temperature of the rice, initially very high, gradually and slowly becomes lower; before taking off the heat, add a dash of Limoncello.

Once the rice has been taken off the heat, add more grated lemon peel and serve in a preheated porcelain dish, garnishing with lemon leaves and slices of the fruit for decoration.