



ROCHESTER VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE #2270, INC.

71 Cohasset Drive
Rochester, New York 14618

OFFICERS

President

Joseph A. Rubé, M.D.

First Vice-President

Jennie Gugino

Second Vice-President

Antonio Palucci

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Jennifer Rubé

Corresponding Secretary

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Financial Secretary

Nancy Rubé

Treasurer

Susan Berta

Orator

Louis Giambra

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Sentinel

Russell Gugino

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Joseph Galante

Angela Parise

Mary Ricci

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Joseph A. Vazzana

Chaplain

Emma Ferlise

District VIII State Trustee

Joseph M. Berta

Bene Emeritus

Louis Giambra

Chaplain Emeritus

Sister Carole Proia

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

December 2010

I hope that all of you had a very happy holiday with your families. As we enter the Christmas season we note that Christmas is one of the most well known and celebrated Holidays in the world. Every culture that celebrates Christmas has its own traditions and Italy is no exception. I recently read some history about the early winter celebration in Italy. In ancient Rome, the winter celebration was called "The Feast of Saturnalia". In pre – Christian times, the celebration centered on the longest night of the year when Goddess gives birth to the Divine Child of Promise – the promise of the return of the sun.

Italian traditions include the legend of La Befana – in Italian folklore – who delivers presents to children throughout Italy, similar to Saint Nicholas or Santa Claus. Today Christmas Day –Natale - celebrates the birth of Christ, the tradition of giving gifts remains, and the bringing together of family for the traditional Christmas Eve meatless meal continues to be a part of Italian tradition and a part of our own Italian American traditions.

I also noted in my readings the reminder that Christopher Columbus and his crew were the first to celebrate Christmas in The New World, when, on December 24th, as the Santa Maria made her way along the shores off Haiti, the ship ran into a sand bank. When Christmas morning arrived the crew swam to shore, salvaging what remained of their goods. Columbus called his crew together, giving thanks to God for protecting him and crew and guiding them to safe harbor, singing Christmas hymns from their homeland and thanks for the joy of the Christ Child's birthday. The first Christmas Day celebrated in the New World.

December also brings with it some Lodge activities. First of all, our annual Christmas dinner which is being held at Carpani's Restaurant on December 11th. I hope to see many of you there. We will NOT have a December General Assembly meeting December 9th – the month is full enough. For those members who wish to participate in the Holiday festivities at the Eagle's Club please contact Brother Joe DiPasquale for info and tickets.

As President I also have to appoint a Nominating Committee for our upcoming elections. All Board positions are up for re-election as well as our Delegates to the State Convention. The only prerequisite for the Nominating Committee is that those persons are not running for an office. Sister Jen Gugino has indicated that she will not be running for a board position this year – we all will miss her valuable Board participation - but she has graciously accepted the position of Chair of the Nominating Committee. The other 4 members of the Committee will be announced in the next week or so.

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All Lodge members who have been members for one year are eligible for consideration for a Board position. All current Board members and any other members wishing to be considered for re-election or new election should contact Sister Jen G. by phone or mail and let her know which position they are interested in running for. The Nominating Committee will present their Slate of Nominees at the January General Assembly meeting – at which time nominations can be taken from the floor. If needed, voting will take place at the February General Assembly meeting. Our Installation Brunch will be held at Midvale Country Club on Sunday March 20th.

I have several special “THANK YOUS” - 1st to Brother Joe Berta, State Trustee, who represented State Grand Lodge President Sal Lanzilotta at our Columbus Day Dinner Dance. Brother Joe’s comments, and historical review were very appropriate and we remain honored to have him as a member of our Lodge. Also, to Sister Jen Gugino, the annual Turkey raffle again was well attended, the entertainment was excellent, the food excellent, and the venue (The Italian American Sports Club) were gracious hosts. It is due to her constant attention to all the details that made this another VERY successful Lodge event – and she did it while “enjoying” her vacation in Italy.

Another thank you goes out to Brother Sal Cutaia who has volunteered to be our chairperson for the lodge’s Autism program with the Grand Lodge. Autism is one of the newest charitable endeavors that OSIA is raising money for and I’m sure that Brother Sal will serve well in this capacity.

I also wish to welcome Brother Tony Idoni from the Geneva Men’s Lodge as our new Lodge Deputy. He has attended several of our functions in the past and we appreciate his willingness to make the trip to Rochester especially during the winter months.

At the request of many Lodge members, Sister Jennifer will provide us with more pictures than usual in this edition of the newsletter. We get many compliments on the photographs and information that our newsletter provides to our membership.

As always, our thoughts and prayers go out to those who have been ill or have had surgery with our hope that they get well soon. Our condolences go out to those who have lost a loved one. We also wish our troops who have served and are currently serving our Country a blessed Christmas.

From Nancy and myself, BUON NATALE e FELICE ANNO NUOVO

Fraternally,

President Joe





"The Roar of the Lion"

Jennifer Rubé, editor
December 2010

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Come join your fellow lodge members for our annual Christmas Party on Saturday December 11th! This year's party will be held at Carpani's Restaurant – 155 Pattonwood Drive near the Stutson Street Bridge.

Cocktail hour will be from 5:30PM – 6:30PM followed by a buffet dinner. We will have musical entertainment and we're looking forward to seeing all of you there. Please make sure to get your RSVP in ASAP as we do have to give a count to the restaurant in advance.

For more information, see the enclosed flyer or call Joe Vazzana at 224-8907.

Merry Christmas!

2011 ELECTIONS

All lodge officer positions are up for election/re-election this year. Many of our older members have said that they will not be running for officer positions this term and we're hoping that you will want to share your enthusiasm and experience for the upcoming 2011-2012 Board of Directors for our Lodge.

Sister Jennie Gugino has accepted the position as Nominating Committee Chairperson and will be picking committee members in the next week or so. Please contact her at 749-5002 or by email at dentica@aol.com if you would like to add your name to the list of nominees. She can also give you descriptions of board positions if you have any questions about them.

WARM HUGS CLOTHING COLLECTION

Lodge members in partnership with the Pittsford Village Merchants and the Pittsford Chamber of Commerce will be collecting coats, hats and mittens for needy children this holiday season.

One of our newest lodge members, Sandy Meleca is a teacher in the City School District and will co-ordinate getting these donations distributed to children who do not have winter outerwear clothing.

If you would like to donate new or gently used clothing, there are several ways you can do this. You can drop off clothing at almost 20 different businesses in the Village of Pittsford (see www.sonsofitalyrochester.com for a list of drop off points). You can also bring donations to the Christmas party on December 11th or you can drop off donations at President Joe's house in Brighton. There are hundreds of children needing these items so please, if you can help we would appreciate it.

Donations do not have to be new. Children who don't have a winter coat, a hat or mittens will not mind gently used clothing but we do ask that all donated items be clean. If you don't have clothing to donate and would like to make a donation, please feel free to send a check to the address at the top of President Joe's letter on page 1. Monetary donations will be used to buy hats and mittens for the kids. Thank you in advance for all your generosity!

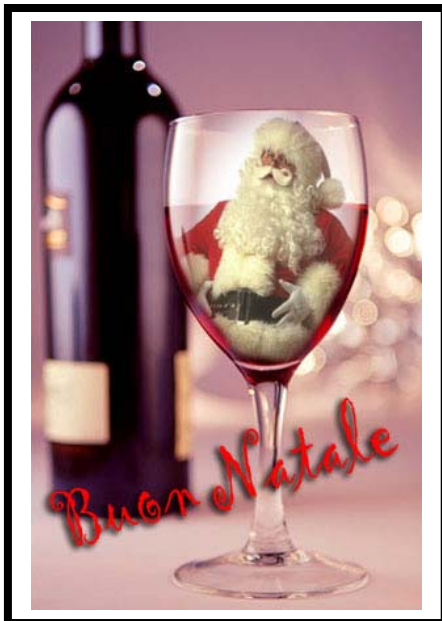
VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- **December 11th 2010** – Sons of Italy Christmas Party at Carpani's Restaurant. – 5:30PM (info: Joe Vazzana at 224-8907)
- **January 6th, 2011** – OSIA Lodge Board Meeting – 7:00PM Casa Italiana (info: 461-1181)
- **January 13th** – OSIA General Assembly Meeting – 7:00PM Casa Italiana (info: 461-1181)
- **March 20th, 2011**– Installation ceremony and brunch for new board members- Midvale Country Club – more info in upcoming newsletters.

SUNSHINE CORNER

If you know of any lodge members who are ill or could use cheering up, please let Corresponding Secretary, Sister Ann Vazzana know at 224-8907.



THE BUON NATALE SONG

Buon Natale, means Merry Christmas to you
Buon Natale, to everyone
Happy New Year and lots of fun
Buon Natale may all your wishes come true
Buon Natale in Italy means
A Merry Christmas to you

Far away across the sea
In sunny Italy
There's a quaint little town
Not a clock has been wound
For over a century

They don't know the time or year
And no one seems to care
And this is the reason
The Christmas season
Is celebrated all year

Buon Natale, means Merry Christmas to you
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ASSEMBLY MEETINGS

The next general assembly meeting will be held on Thursday January 13th, 2011 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 everyone is welcome. Please Note: the meeting room is handicapped accessible.

How about a 3-season jacket, sweatshirt or polo shirt that you can wear to show your pride at being a member of the Sons of Italy? We're taking Christmas orders NOW! Call Jennifer at (585) 381-5540 or look for the flyer in your November newsletter.

VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

NEW MEMBERS

We are always looking for new members to bring into our lodge. Think about family, friends and co-workers who might enjoy joining our group and promoting our Italian heritage.

FUNDRAISERS

Ink and Toner Cartridges!

Thank you to all the members who have been bringing us empty ink and toner cartridges. Each one gives us credit towards future printing at Staples and because of these donations many of our newsletters have printed at little or no cost this year. This is a huge savings for the lodge and enables us to put that money towards other expenses and events.

Attention all Coke product drinkers!

Our newest fundraiser is collecting code numbers from under the caps on any Coca Cola product including Dasani waters or the code printed on the inside of any multi-pack Coke can product. These codes are bringing us points which we will redeem for raffle prizes to be used at upcoming lodge events. You are welcome to bring me the caps or you can email me the code numbers and I'll keep track of them for the lodge. The more points we collect, the bigger the prizes we can redeem them for so please help out if you can!

If you have suggestions for any other similar fundraising ideas, please let me know. This is a fairly easy way to give to the lodge and have something tangible to show for our efforts.

Thanks, Jennifer

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/08	Paul Cloffey
12/09	Teresa Giuliani Imburgia
12/09	Marisa Rubé
12/15	James Vazzana
12/17	Maryann Koons
12/18	Rosella LaComba
12/20	Jennie Gugino
12/22	Emma Ferlise
12/23	Maurice Palucci
12/28	Ruth Provenzano

New Years Traditions

New Year's Eve in Italy

La Festa di San Silvestro

La Festa di San Silvestro is celebrated December 31 on New Year's Eve. As with most Italian festivals, food plays a major role. Families and friends get together for a huge feast. The star of the dinner is lentils, symbolizing money and good fortune for the coming year. Traditionally, the dinner in many parts of Italy also includes a *cotechino*, a large spiced sausage, or a *zampone*, stuffed pig's trotter. The pork symbolizes the richness of life in the coming year.

*Merry
Christmas*

Columbus Day Parade 2010



2010 Columbus Day Parade



2010 Turkey Raffle Dinner

