



The Roar of the Lion

Marisa Rubé, editor
December 2014

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

December 4th @ 7pm: Council Meeting, Grapevine Restaurant (122 Main Street, East Rochester)

December 11th @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting, Eyer Building (317 Main Street, East Rochester)

January 4th @ 1pm: Annual Lodge Holiday Party @ Nick's Seabreeze Inn (4581 Culver Rd, Rochester)

January 8th @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting, Eyer Building (317 Main Street, East Rochester)

****Please note, January Council Meeting is cancelled****



MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

The Rochester Democrat and Chronicle featured a wonderful article about lodge member Patty Galante and her family in November. The article details Patty's family making the voyage to America and what Thanksgiving has come to mean for them. If you missed the article, you can view it here:

<http://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2014/11/26/maria-oliveri-italy-family-thanksgiving/19554449/>



CONGRATULATIONS

Brother Joe Rubé has been appointed CSJ (Commission for Social Justice) District Liaison and District VIII Deputy to the Grand Lodge.

Brother Tom Meleca was appointed Lodge Deputy to the Geneva Men's Lodge.



EDITOR'S NOTE

Please note, the January Council Meeting is cancelled, due to it falling on New Years' Day. The

General Assembly Meeting will still take place on January 8th at the Eyer Building.

I also want to mention again that I would love to include recipes, writings, stories, etc from lodge members in our newsletter. If you have anything that you would like to submit, please send it to me at marisarube@gmail.com, in the mail (contact info in your member directory), or in person at a meeting or event.

Finally, at our last two meetings I gave some information about the non-profit organization, Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes, Inc. I was asked to put the list of donations needed here in the newsletter. We will have a box for donated items at the General Assembly meetings, and I have included donation information on page 3 of this newsletter.

Thank you and have a blessed holiday!

WELL WISHES

Wishing Pat and Shirley Sculli both a speedy recovery as they continue to recuperate at home.



All Vincent Lombardi Lodge communications should be sent to
President Vince Giannantonio at:

61 Sunset Street, Rochester, NY 14606 - (585) 208-1578 – vinnyg1951@gmail.com



VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE #2270
61 Sunset Street
Rochester, New York 14606



OFFICERS

President

Vincent Giannantonio

First Vice-President

Sandra Meleca

Second Vice-President

Thomas Meleca

Recording Secretary

Bonnie Cottone

Financial Secretary

Joseph Rubé, MD

Treasurer

Louis DeCarolis

Orator

Robert Meli

Mistress of Ceremony

Nancy Rubé

Ann Vazzana

Sentinel

Ross Cottone

Trustees

Michael Tomaselli

Luigi DiFilippo

Matthew Grosodonia

Edward Grozewski

Antonio Palucci

Immediate Past President

Joseph Rubé, MD

Chaplain

Ann Vazzana

District VIII State Trustee

Anthony DiCostanzo

Chaplain Emeritus

Sister Carole Proia

Lodge Deputy

Anthony Idoni

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable Thanksgiving and are looking forward to the beginning of our holiday season.

As we are grateful for our families so we are thankful for our lodge family as well. Being part of our lodge enables us to stay connected to our heritage, each other, and our family values.

Also at this time I would like everyone to keep in your thoughts and prayers our ailing members, especially Shirley and Pat Sculli, who were both hospitalized recently.

Congratulations to Sister Jen Gugino and all those who helped her for another successful Turkey Raffle. Our scholarship fund is growing by leaps and bounds.

After months of searching for a meeting place for our lodge, we have finally settled on the Evers Building at the Village of East Rochester Community Center. We will now be calling this our lodge home. We were fortunate in receiving a warm welcome from the town officials of East Rochester.

We are looking forward to our upcoming events, including the Holiday Brunch at Nick's Seabreeze Inn. It will be on Sunday, January 4th, 1-5 p.m. Tickets will be \$20.00 and can be purchased from Brother Matthew Grosodonia.

Our winter clambake is in the process of being planned with information to follow soon.

In January we will have election of officers followed by our installation program on Sunday, March 15th at Burgundy Basin Inn.

If you are interested in running for a position please contact the nominating committee chairperson, Linda Agnello.

Remember our December 11th meeting will be an open meeting with initiations for a number of new members.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the December meeting.

Peace,

Fraternally yours,

President Vince

VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

SAFE HARBORS

The mission of Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes, Inc. is to provide reliable information, support, referrals, and advocacy for individuals, children, families, and communities impacted by sexual and interpersonal violence. We offer our services throughout Ontario, Seneca, and Yates Counties at no charge. Our vision is for our communities to overcome the stigma and burdens of sexual and interpersonal violence and to be safe and secure from these harmful acts and crimes. We offer individual counseling and support groups, legal accompaniment and personal advocacy with referrals to local agencies. We provide primary prevention services in schools, professional agencies, and in the communities we serve. In 2013 we served 1575 domestic violence and sexual assault/abuse victims, provided prevention education to 8575 children and adults, and provided professional presentations to 177 participants.

Donations needed include:

Small denomination gas cards

Small denomination grocery store and Walmart gift cards

Full Sized, unopened toiletries and personal care items

Non-perishable, microwaveable food items

Adult and child hats, scarves, and gloves

Monetary donations can be made at www.safeharborsfl.org or in the mail to PO Box 624, Penn Yan, NY 14527

Also, if you are doing any online shopping on amazon.com, consider making your purchases on smile.amazon.com instead. This is exactly the same site as amazon.com, with the same items and prices, except that a portion of your purchase price is donated to the non-profit of your choice. Here is the link to Safe Harbors on Amazon Smile:

www.smile.amazon.com/safeharborsofthefingerlakesinc

CELEBRATE



12/04	Quintino DiCesare
12/06	Franca Cinelli
12/07	David DiNicola
12/09	Marisa Rubé
12/09	Dr. Kenneth Nudo
12/11	Chris Napoli
12/11	Charlene Dogson
12/15	James Vazzana
12/17	Maryann Koons
12/20	Jennie Gugino
12/23	Dr. Maurice Palucci
12/26	Dr. Ralph Doerr

CSJ ESSAY CONTEST

The cultural heritage of any ethnic group is important to being able to understand who we are, where we come from, and where we are going. With each generation we move farther away from carrying on traditions and knowing how we came to be. The CSJ of OSIA supported the creation of an essay contest and in collaboration with the Geneva Lodge and Gail Lodge, the essay contest will be disseminated to middle school students within Monroe and Ontario Counties in February 2015. A list of questions has been designed for students to interview an Italian senior citizen and to write their story. The deadline for submission will be the end of April with winners announced in June. We want all students to take this opportunity to keep the Italian heritage alive through interviews and transforming the conversations into an "autobiographical" story.

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LA TRADIZIONE DI NATALE

Does your family celebrate any of these popular Italian Christmas traditions?

The Novena: The Italian Christmas season generally lasts three weeks beginning with the Novena, the eight days before Christmas. This is a period of celebration when music fills the air. Young musicians go around playing their musical instruments, singing Christmas carols and reciting Christmas poems. Preparations for the Christmas holiday are begun in earnest by families during the Novena, beginning with the setup of the Presepe on December 8th.

Presepe: A Nativity or Manger scene. On December 8th, the presepe is set up in Italian households, with elaborate lighting, backdrops, running water and multiple figures. Baby Jesus is never placed in the crib until Christmas Eve, and the presepe usually stays up for a month until after the feast of the Epiphany. St. Francis of Assisi is credited with popularizing the presepe, using live animals and real people for his Nativity scenes. In the 13th century in a cave in the small town of Greccio, St. Francis built a manger scene and celebrated Mass. Since then the tradition spread throughout all of Italy.

Ceppo: A wooden frame several feet high designed in a pyramid shape. This frame supports several tiers of shelves, often with a manger scene on the bottom followed by small gifts of fruit, candy, and presents on the shelves above. The "Tree of Light," as it is also known, is entirely decorated with colored paper, gilt pinecones, and miniature colored pennants. Small candles are fastened to the tapering sides and a star or small doll is hung at the apex.

Festa Dei Sette Pesci: The Feast of Seven Fishes commemorates the wait for the midnight birth of Jesus. Traditionally, a meatless dinner is eaten on Christmas Eve with the family, which includes seven types of fish (for the sacraments) and, depending on the town of origin, as many as thirteen. This is all followed by a living nativity scene and a midnight mass.

La Befana: Befana visits all the children of Italy on the eve of the Feast of the Epiphany to fill their socks with candy and presents if they are good or a lump of coal or dark candy if they are bad. She is usually portrayed as an old lady riding a broomstick through the air wearing a black shawl and is covered in soot because she enters the children's houses through the chimney.

LA FESTA DI SAN SILVESTRO

How about these Italian New Year's Eve Traditions?

The Feast: The sumptuous feast on New Year's Eve includes lentils since they are thought to signify abundance. Zampone, which is made from pig's feet filled with spicy pork stuffing, is another traditional dish. The zampone signifies that those who partake will enjoy an unprecedented richness of life in the coming year. Cotechino, which is a large spicy pork sausage boiled over low heat for hours, is also a traditional dish in many parts of Italy. It's thought that the round slices of pork sausage and the golden, oval-shaped lentils are symbols of coins. The more you eat, the more prosperous you'll be. White risotto, called risotto in bianco, is also a popular New Year's Eve entree throughout Italy. Grapes and raisins are served at New Year's to indicate frugal spending.

The Traditions:

During this time of the year, red underwear for both men and women is prominently displayed in intimate apparel shops. The idea is that someone will buy red underwear as a gift for you. Wearing the underwear on New Year's Eve will bring you buona fortuna, which means good luck, throughout the year. In order for this custom to be as effective as possible, the red undies must be thrown out the following day.

Another tradition, although not now practiced as regularly as it was in ancient times, is for Italians to toss their old personal items out of the window and down to the street below. Anything goes, including pots, pans, articles of clothing, even furniture. This tradition is based on the idea that everyone should look forward to the blessings of a New Year with anticipation and with faith. By discarding the unhappiness of the past, you make way for a brighter and happier future.

Along with this noisy tradition, another custom involves smashing glasses, vases, and other pottery on the ground. The idea is to chase away any bad omens or evil spirits so that the New Year starts out fresh.

Another tradition designed to ward off evil spirits is the New Year's Eve burning of the Yule log. Starting a fire with the Yule log is designed to terrify the evil spirits. Fire and a lot of noise seem to be the best ways to get rid of them. The fire should burn in the fireplace until New Year's Day to make your home welcoming for the Virgin Mary and the newborn Jesus. This tradition has been around for centuries, and it was thought that the fire's ashes could be used as a charm for protecting the house from lightning and other calamities.

Taken from www.Italy.answers.com

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VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

CUCCIDATI COOKIES

Recipe courtesy of www.kitchennostalgia.com. Yields approximately 64 cookies

DOUGH:

4 cups all-purpose flour
1 cup sugar
1 Tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
1 cup (2 sticks) butter, cut into ½-inch cubes
2 large eggs, lightly beaten
½ cup milk
1 Tablespoon vanilla

FILLING:

1 cup dried figs
½ cup dried dates, pitted
½ cup raisins
¾ cup whole almonds, toasted and coarsely chopped
¾ cup walnuts, toasted and coarsely chopped
2/4 cup honey
¼ cup orange marmalade
¼ cup brandy
1½ tsp orange zest
1 tsp lemon zest
1 tbs cinnamon
¼ tsp cloves
¼ tsp nutmeg

ICING

1 cup powdered sugar, sifted
¼ teaspoon vanilla
1½ Tablespoons orange juice

Dough: Cream butter. Add sugar, eggs, and vanilla; beat until creamy. Sift flour, baking powder and salt into a large bowl. Add the creamed mixture and knead well; slowly add milk during the kneading process.

Filling: Grind figs, dates and raisins. Add spices and nuts to the ground fig mixture. (Or you can mix everything in the food processor until coarsely chopped.) Mix the honey and brandy to the ground mixture until the mixture is thoroughly wet.

Cut the dough into 4 pieces. Roll out each piece of dough. Cut the dough into 4 by 3-inch rectangles. Spoon 2 tablespoons of filling down the center of each rectangle. Fold the long sides of each rectangle inward to the center to enclose the filling; pinch the edges to seal. Turn rolls seam-sides down and press gently to flatten seams. Cut logs crosswise with a floured knife into 1½-inch-wide slices and arrange ½ inch apart on buttered large baking sheets.

Place on an ungreased cookie sheet. Bake for 12-15 minutes in a 375 degree oven.

Frost with icing: mix powdered sugar, vanilla, and enough orange juice (about 1½ Tablespoons) to make of spreading consistency. Sprinkle with small multicolored decorative candies.

PIGNOLI COOKIES

Recipe courtesy of Anne Burrell and www.foodnetwork.com
Yields approximately 40 cookies

One 15-ounce can almond paste, finely crumbled
1 cup confectioners' sugar
2 tablespoons honey
Pinch ground cinnamon
Pinch fine salt
2 large egg whites
1 lemon, zested
1/2 to 3/4 cups pine nuts
Special Equipment: disposable pastry bag

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Line sheet trays with parchment paper or silicone baking mats.

In the bowl of a stand mixer equipped with the paddle attachment, beat the almond paste on high speed until it is really broken up. Add the confectioners' sugar and mix on slow speed until well combined.

Add the honey, cinnamon, salt, egg whites and lemon zest and beat on medium speed until the mixture is well combined and very thick, about 5 minutes.

Fill a disposable pastry bag with the dough. Push the dough towards the tip and cut the tip off the bag. Pipe 1-inch balls onto the prepared sheet trays. Top with the pine nuts, pressing them into the dough to secure. Bake until the cookies are golden, 12 to 14 minutes.



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LODGE OFFICES

2015 is an election year and all offices are up for renewal. If you are interested in becoming a lodge officer or learning more about officer responsibilities, please contact the nominations committee chairperson, Linda Agnello.

FACEBOOK

Here's how to find us. Please "like" us on Facebook and encourage your friends and family to do the same:

www.facebook.com/OSIAVincentlombardilodge



COKE REWARDS

We are still collecting bottle caps and rewards codes from all Coke products. The codes can be found inside the bottle caps or inside the cardboard boxes from canned drinks. We redeem these codes for points towards different items that we can use for raffles at lodge events. If you can't bring them to the next meeting, feel free to email the codes to Marisa at marisarube@gmail.com.

Every cap is something Get codes from these great products



INK CARTRIDGES

Thank you to everyone that has brought us empty ink and toner cartridges this year!

This year our donated rewards points continue to be used for supplies and printing at Staples, to help keep our administrative costs low.

If you have any empties to donate, please bring them to the next lodge meeting or social event.



OSIA APPAREL

Only 22 more shopping days until Christmas and OSIA Apparel can make a great gift! Please contact Brother Joe Rubé at 585-461-1181 if you are interested in ordering, or have any questions about this.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

With the last membership dues, we gave folks the option to pay \$25 to bring membership current to December 2014 or \$75 to bring membership current to December 2015. Those who only paid \$25 at that time will be receiving a dues notice shortly to pay the \$50 for renewal through December 2015. This bill must be paid by December 31st, 2014 in order for membership to remain intact.

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14th Annual Papa Tony Antolini Turkey Raffle

