



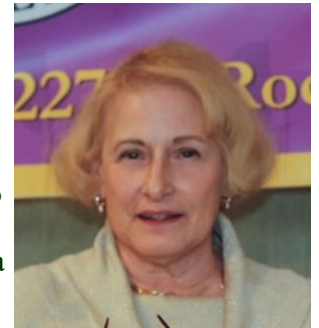
VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE #2270

The Roar of the Lion

Marisa Rubé Przepiora, editor
July 2022 Edition

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The year has passed the halfway mark, but we still have much to look forward to before we welcome 2023. We look at summer as a time of growth. We see it in our gardens, the farm fields, fawns become does or bucks, goslings become geese, cygnets grow into beautiful swans, and our children/grandchildren move up in school to a new grade or perhaps are off to college/trade school, a job, or the military. In a relatively short time, many changes.



While COVID and the pandemic may have slowed some things down; cancelled or postponed events, vacations, or gatherings; organizations may have dissolved or been reduced in number of members who may have retired, moved on, or took up residency elsewhere; OSDIA has not changed fundamentally but has still evolved. It is important for us now to focus on growth, and to take advantage of those opportunities that can make that happen. It is essential for us to welcome new voices and fresh ideas if we intend to celebrate our Diamond Jubilee. It is never too early to start planning!

Our current membership brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the organization, and we need to use that to our advantage while still growing and evolving. We should look at opportunities for outreach as a way to tell our stories but to also listen to others and their stories. We should not only look to grow our Lodge by increasing the number of new members who join but also by what we are willing and able to do. Growth is crucial to long-term survival to even consider a 75th Anniversary celebration. It is understandable why we resist change. We believe we will lose something of value or are afraid we will not be able to adapt to new ways.

We should look at where we want to be over the next few years and how we are going to get there addressing questions and concerns as we proceed. Change is hard and requires patience. Knowing that the first time we try something new will not be perfect, but to be willing to look at how to make things better, to improve on the idea or process, and to try again. Not to give up. Sometimes it takes a few tries before whatever we are doing will be where and what we want it to be. What we do should evolve as we move forward, but it takes everyone to step up and to, perhaps, learn new skills and to work in different ways.

Our Lodge and OSDIA needs to keep growing, to keep changing, to keep learning, and to keep evolving.

Take Care and God Bless,
Marjorie

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2022 Vincent Lombardi Lodge Calendar

July 7th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting

July 14th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting and Scholarship Awards Night (Eyer Building)

July 21st - 23rd, 6pm - 11pm: ER Firemen's Carnival Member Recruitment Table (ER Fairgrounds)

August 4th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting

August 20th: Annual Members Picnic, Quinzi Lodge—Eyer Park (100 Eyer Park, East Rochester)

September 1st, 6:30pm: Council Meeting

September 8th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

October 6th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting

October 14th: Italian American Heritage Dinner, Webster Country Club (440 Salt Rd, Webster)

November 3rd, 6:30pm: Council Meeting

November 17th: Papa Antolini's Turkey Raffle (Location TBD)

December 1st, 6:30pm: Council Meeting

December 8th, 7pm: General Assembly Holiday Gathering, Eyer Building (East Rochester)



Scholarship Awards Night

Thursday, July 14th, 7pm
Eyer Building, East Rochester

Join us to celebrate this year's local and state scholarship and award winners. Refreshments will be served.



Members Picnic

Sunday, Aug. 31st 1 pm to 5 Pm
Quinzi Lodge, Eyer Park,
East Rochester

Free to members
and their spouse or significant other
Non Members \$10/person
More information to follow



7/4: Robert Kosinsky, Nancy Rubé
7/8: Joseph DiMaria
7/9: Ann Marie Taddeo
7/15: Marjorie Focarazzo
7/16: Melissa DiStaffen

7/17: Richard Antelli, Karen Pelc
7/18: Rosita Caridi-Miller
7/21: Elizabeth Osta
7/22: Stephanie Brey
7/23: Robert Golino
7/25: Bill Agnello
7/30: Joanne Giambrone Rath



Sending prayers for a full and speedy recovery to Brother Joe Rubé, recuperating at the Rochester Jewish home after a stroke, to Brother David DiNicola, who was recently hospitalized, and to Brother Bill Agnello, who recently suffered an injury. Please also keep Brother John Pecora and Sister Pat Bartholomew as they face John's long term illness. Continued prayers go out to Sister Sandy Meleca, Brother Ezio Bonanni, Sister Lila Bonanni and to all of our member who have faced illness and injury.

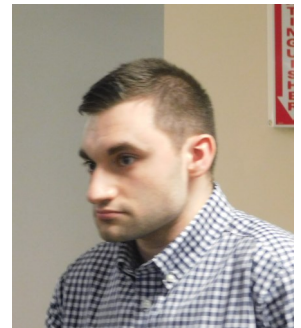


A Very Special Birthday Wish

Longtime member Sister Mary Ricci turned 100 years old on June 6th! As you can see, Mary is still going strong after those 100 years! Mary, we wish you the happiest of birthdays and are so glad that you were able to spend it with the people who mean the most to you. Cheers another happy, healthy year ahead!



We initiated 5 new members at our June General Assembly Meeting: (from left to right) Jeffrey Arigo, Philomena Mascitti Giambrone, and Joanne Giambrone Rath, Lorraine Palucci, and Tony Palucci Jr. Please give them a warm welcome and take a moment to get to know them when you see them at our next meeting or event. Welcome Sisters Lorraine, Philomena, and Joanne, and Brothers Jeffrey and Tony Jr!





OSDIA-WOMEN'S ACTION COMMITTEE (WAC)

MISSION AND PURPOSE: OSDIA Women's Action Committee (WAC) has been created under the leadership of National President, Robert Bianchi. The committee's mission is to serve as a vehicle to provide and promote educational and awareness programs in addition to networking and social events to OSDIA members. These events will be geared towards increasing interest in membership as well as leadership opportunities for not only women but anyone. The WAC will collectively work with the entire membership in supporting one another, sharing best practices and new ideas while embracing our Italian culture and heritage.

The WAC committee plans to offer a variety of events, on topics such as financial wellness, personal safety, and awareness in addition to recognition opportunities in support of important Italian and Italian American women and overall Italian history and culture.

The WAC committee is comprised of 16 members and National Advisor Michael Polo. The group has met initially monthly and now every other month to collectively discuss new and exciting ideas and events to share.

Linda Buccini Anderson Co-chair WAC
Lynn Lawrence-Murphy Co-chair WAC
Committee Members:

Marjorie Focarazzo
Shayla Kaestle
Mary Kovach
Michele Ment
Nancy Timperio Porcelli
Nancy DiFiore Quinn
Anita Lombardi Riley
Diane Santoro

Catena Spiritosanto
Joanne Strollo
Barbara Furmosa
Wisniewski
Sarah Rumo
Silvana Ricci

A number of issues are being addressed: Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault, Financial Wellness are just a few. As concerns evolve and events are planned, information will be passed on to you.



Thank you to everyone who helped with the 50th Anniversary Celebration and to everyone who attended our event! All of you made it a huge success!

Interested in viewing the 50th Anniversary slide show that was played at our celebration? See our lodge members at our events and functions throughout the years - follow the link below to view the full slideshow.



If you would like to order a copy for \$5, please contact us at vincentlombardilodge@gmail.com or 585-750-8336. We will put the slideshow on a flash drive for you, and at your request we will even tailor pictures to include more of you and your family/friends at our events, as available.

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Pv_5uIpp2hB8EtLUjYQ9u_s9UsGWqbZk/edit?usp=sharing&oid=104377879872902282307&rtpof=true&sd=true

NYSOSDIA Commission on Social Justice



Like most organizations, the CSJ has met on a regular basis using zoom and teleconference. While many are zoomed out or are beginning to have an adversarial relationship with their computer, prior to COVID, the CSJ met in person downstate, so COVID brought about a positive change. Update and Western NY are now included in meetings that we were not able to attend in the past unless we travelled downstate. The entire board now hears first hand how all of us can support culture the and fight the never-ending battle of those that attack us.

Sadly, CSJ executive board lost two significant, dedicated, and passionate to the case, Joseph Vallone and Louis Gallo. Most of us are familiar with the name Lou Gallo, whose unwavering commitment in the fight that disparaged Columbus was second to none. Joe who was a little more behind the scenes was CSJ treasurer and kept the finances in order. Both will be missed.

The CSJ has kept abreast of our brothers and sisters who continue to fight the removal of the Columbus statue in Columbus Circle. The statue was built by and paid for by the Italian Americans of Syracuse in 1934. The Italian American Community and the Columbus Monument Committee sued Mayor Walsh and the city over removal. The decision made by Justice Nero rendered support in favor of the Monument Committee, but unfortunately the major intends to appeal the ruling.

Happenings in the government at all levels surrounding Columbus Day are in constant flux. Congressmen Andrew Garbarino and Mark Amodei introduced Resolution 708 supporting recognition of Christopher Columbus and his impact on the Italian American Community and recognizing the second Monday in October as Columbus Day. US Congress House Bill S473, sponsored by Rep. Norma Torres, CA to replace Columbus Day. No action has taken place as of now, but we need to keep this on our radar.

NYS Senator Alessandra Biaggi opposes the Columbus holiday and his statues. Grand daughter of Italian American Congressman and Leader Mario Biaggi, she lied to Past President Anthony Naccarato and CSJ Chair John Fratto when asked if she support Columbus Day. Her grandfather was a fighter for our heritage and culture and would be disappointed in her stand.

Staten Island Congressional Candidate Brittany Ramos De Barros supports removing the Columbus Statue in Columbus Circle, although this is area is not and would not be in her jurisdiction. She would like to see the Columbus Statue with some kind of tribute to the Indigenous Peoples of Turtle Island or the Lenape people, specifically. Mayor Eric Adams wants to see the Columbus statue to remain in Columbus Circle. He has appointed a number of Italian Americans to prominent positions in his administration. Governor Kathy Hochel appointed Thomas Scarangelo as the Italian American liaison. She has announced that she will help with Little Italy's across the state and has granted \$1 million for the Italian American Museum.

The CSJ is demanding a full investigation from the NYS Attorney General's Office in the death of an international student, Claudio Mandia, a senior at Boarding School ED Academy, who admitted to cheating on a math test. He was expelled from school and removed to an isolated area with no communication from anyone associated with the school. He endured such conditions for four days, when he was found dead by a school counselor. NYS Law forbids the isolation of any student for any reason. There is no oversight of prep schools through the NYS Department of Education. The CSJ is seeking accountability of the school's administration.

The CSJ, both at the State and National levels, are very diligent in seeking redress to the bias and bigotry that has plagued us for decades. We may not always get the positive outcome we work toward, but it is not for a lack of trying.

Italian Contributions to World Civilization

Petrarch

Francesco Petrarca (1304 -1374) shares with Giacomo da Lentini of Sicily the honor of introducing the form of the sonnet to world literature. Although he is justly celebrated for this achievement, he is also credited with initiating the Renaissance in Italy and being the founding father of Renaissance humanism.

He was born in the city of Arezzo on 20 July 1304 to Ser Petracco and his wife Elea Canigiani. His father, a friend of Dante Alighieri, moved the family to Avignon, following the move of Pope Clement V. At the urging of his father, he studied law at the University of Montpellier for seven years. However, he formed a strong distaste for the law and never practiced. Instead he took up undemanding work in clerical offices that left him ample time for research and writing. He began publishing at an early age, and in 1341 he was named poet laureate in Rome. Four years later he personally discovered a collection of Cicero's letters that lay forgotten in the Cathedral of Verona. Many historians see in this discovery the beginnings of the Renaissance recovery of the classical world. Petrarch himself continued to find, edit and promote the study of classic Latin literature. He even wrote a volume of short biographical sketches of famous Romans including Julius Caesar and Publius Scipio Africanus, who vanquished Hannibal.

In spite of his historical and scholarly work, Petrarch is best known today for his poetry, especially his sonnets. They are among the earliest literature written in the vernacular Italian of the day, a language he never used in his scholarly work. The inspiration for his celebrated sonnets was Laura, a captivating young woman he saw in a church in Avignon. As she was already married, Petrarch could only admire her from afar. For over nearly forty years she inspired 366 poems in his Canzoniere (songbook), of which 317 are sonnets. Each sonnet is cast in fourteen lines, with a particular rhyme scheme, and struggle with a whole gamut of his emotions and moods: frustrations, day dreams, and the pain of unrequited love.

His sonnets spread quickly throughout Europe and remained extremely popular for centuries afterwards. Other writers used the sonnet form to great acclaim: John Donne, John Milton, William Wordsworth, John Keats and Dante Rossetti, and, of course, William Shakespeare, are but a few.

As he grew older he came to believe that his poetry was would be forgotten as merely trivial and that he would be remembered for his scholarly research. He couldn't have been more wrong. In his final years he moved to the village of Arquà later in life, where he spent much time in religious contemplation. He died there on his 70th birthday, 20 July 1374.

~A friend of Matteo Teresi



Rochester Italian Americans in the Public Eye



Salvatore "Sam" Ciaccio was a native of Italy and came to the US in 1912 when he was 14 years old. He started working at Fashion Park Clothes, who manufactured men's tailored suits and apparel, located on Portland Avenue, and operated from 1910 until the 1960's, when he was 16. He became instrumental in the labor movement and was a union organizer for the Northeast and later the business representative

for the AFL-CIO Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America in Rochester. Ciaccio organized workers at Hickey Freeman, Michael Sterns, Fashion Park, and other manufacturers. From 1935 until 1965 he was the president of the union's joint board. If he does not sound familiar to you, his son, Arnold, is a retired Monroe County Surrogate Court Judge and his grandson, Christopher, is a Monroe County Court Judge.



Margaret "Midge" Costanza was born in LeRoy but grew up in Rochester. Her parents immigrated here from Sicily. Midge was an activist, a councilwoman, and vice-mayor of Rochester. She worked at various levels in government: volunteered on W. Averell Harriman's campaign for governor, Monroe County executive director for Robert F. Kennedy's Senate

campaign, and ran for an at-large seat on the Rochester City Council in 1973 to become the first councilwoman in a landslide. Although, she received the largest number of votes, the city council chose a man to hold the office of mayor, making Midge vice-mayor.

President Jimmy Carter named Costanza Assistant to the President for Public Liaison, giving her an office next to the president in the Oval Office. She gained the nickname of "the President's window to the nation." She supported the Equal Rights Amendment, was popular with women's groups, and had earned herself

a Newsweek cover titled "Woman in the White House". In 1990, she moved to San Diego. Midge Costanza was nominated and inducted into the San Diego County Women's Hall of Fame in 2011 by Women's Museum of California, Commission on the Status of

Women, University of California, San Diego Women's Center, and San Diego State University Women's Studies. She passed away in 2010 at the age of 77, but earned the respect of many as a Trailblazer, a woman who paved the way for other women.



A SIP OF WINE The Flavors of Sicily

Sicily is the largest island in the Mediterranean Sea. It is mostly mountainous and home to Europe's highest active volcano at 10,900 feet, Mt. Etna. For centuries the people here have been in contact with a great variety of ethnicities, yet manages to keep it characteristic as a rural region due to its isolation and distance from mainland Italy.

Sicily's cuisine has been influenced by the many cultures that have established themselves for more than two millennia. Their dishes have been inspired by the ancient Greeks, Arabs and Normans and from areas as far away as Spain, North Africa, and the Middle East.

The climate, which has consistent sunshine and reliably moderate rainfall, is ideally suited for growing vineyards. Some of the grapes that grow predominantly in Sicily are:

Insolia: a white grape that grows predominantly in Sicily. It is one of three blending grapes for Marsala. The other two are cattanarato and grillo.

Grillo: a white grape varietal that originated in Sicily. The grape is usually grown on bush trained vines and loves the hot, dry Sicilian climate.

Nero d' Avola: named for the town of Avola on the southeast coast. The most important and widely planted red wine grape. It produces a wine that is full bodied with tannins.

Frapato: a red grape known for its fruitiness. It is cherry colored, aromatic, and has low tannins. The wines are light bodied and goes well with fresh and aged cheeses, salamis, Sicilian red tuna, fish couscous, simple pastas, and tomato-based dishes.

Nerello Mascalese: the predominant grape grown on Mt. Etna. The grape is thought to have originated in the Mascali area of Catania.

Nerello Cappuccio: this grape is dark-skinned with strange shaped leaves that resemble a cloak (cappuccio). It is often blended with its cousin, Nerello Mascalese, which adds the rich color and cherry flavors.

Did you know?



Photo: NY Times

Joseph Paul Florio was born in Brooklyn, son of Italian immigrants. Song writer and record producer from the 1950's until the 1970's, he wrote over 300 songs. We have all sang along to his tunes as they played on the radio or from well known performers: Perry Como, Frank Sinatra, Shirley Bassey, Robert Goulet, Johnny Mathis, Eddie Fisher, Natalie Cole, Clint Holmes, to name a few.

He was a professional boxer in his youth, served in the Army, and ran an auto salvage business until he connected with a music publishing company and changed his name to Paul Vance.

Still not sure who he is. . .

Catch a Falling Star recorded by Perry Como

Itsy Bitsy Teenie Weenie Yellow Polka Dot Bikini recorded by Brian Hyland

What Will Mary Say recorded by Johnny Mathis

Playground in My Mind recorded by Clint Holmes

Run Joey Run for David Geddes

I Think About You a hit by Kathy Keates and Al Martino

Then Suddenly Love for Frank Sinatra

In 1957, Catch a Falling Star, recorded by Como was the very first record to go gold with more than million copies sold. His song Itsy Bitsy boosted bikini sales and inspired several vinyl covers. Vance who died on May 30, 2022 once said, "Everybody knows my songs, but they don't know me. If you told them the songs I wrote, they'd say, 'Get outta here!' I look like a regular truck driver."

Did you know?



What is graffiti? We see it all over the place. According to the Encyclopedia Britannica, it is a form of communication, usually illegal, involving unauthorized marking of public space by an individual or a group. But did you know the term comes from the Italian word *graffiato* meaning "scratched". It originally served as a form of expression usually a form of endearment or quotations. The graphics and words often give insight into a culture.

Used in art history, graffiti refers to the art work produced scratching a design on some type of surface and involved more than one layer of pigment in order to reveal another underneath it. It was primarily used by potters for glazing their wares and adding the design after.

Ancient graffiti was used to express declarations of love, political rhetoric, and simple ideas. Graffiti was preserved on the walls of buildings in Pompeii, found during excavation. Today it is produced by using spray paint or paint markers. These sorts of art usually center around something that went wrong or went well centering around the views about people, politics, culture, art, and general ideas. The work is usually anonymous. The next time you come across some graffiti, try to think about what the "artist" is trying to convey.

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