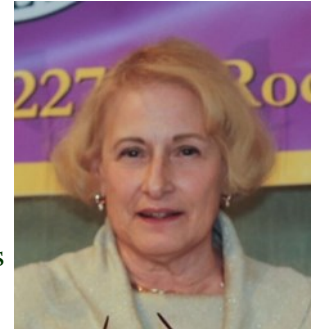




VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE #2270

# The Roar of the Lion

Marisa Rubé Przepiora, editor  
May 2022 Edition



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

How has your life changed since the onset of Covid 19 in March 2020? We believed we should focus on cleaning and sanitizing, which is almost an impossibility. So many events and happenings were cancelled or postponed; schools went from an in-person environment to virtual learning, business was done remotely, and telemedicine kept us connected to doctors and the medical community.

Instacart became the norm and believed that this would only be in effect for one week but here we are, many of us still concerned with gathering.

Looking back over the past two year, we have seen dramatic shifts in our job, eating habits, childcare, and even our sense of time. No one has been left untouched after such a dramatic disruption to our lives and wellbeing. Many of us, whether employed, unemployed, or retired experienced a distorted sense of time. Each day morphed into the next, and we would forget what day it was. Without our established routines, comings and goings, shopping, visiting family and friends, travel, the things we planned for or looked forward to into endless days. Our boundaries between work and/or school collapsed since there was no longer a distinction when we could leave the virtual pandemic world. Online learning or distance learning for the adult student takes on an entirely different perspective than for the elementary or high school student. By nature, we do not do well in isolation, but are social creatures and we prosper when we are able to interact with others, we have something in common with. Remote learning just cannot replace the in-classroom experience. Children need personal interaction and social engagement in order to adapt.

On the positive side, which, perhaps, is what we should focus on, physical distancing resulted in an increase visitation to parks and public lands. We discovered the wonders of nature. Life has slowed down, and we have taken more time to be with and to get to know family and friends. We engaged in more relaxing activities: reading, quilting, painting, or long walks. The calendar became almost obsolete. Eating out less we developed more creative ways to cook. People of different backgrounds came together to help each other out. Some of us have become more adept with computers, smart phones, and iPad, engaging in facetime with family members who lived hundred of miles away. Business trips, conferences, workshops were held remotely which saved companies money, less time away from loved ones, and no need to recoup from jet lag or red eye travels.

We must balance the positive with the negative. We can use the negativity to spark massive change which can lead to various opportunities. The positivity can help us stay the course, keep us motivated, and give us hope for the future. My wish for each of you is hope for a safe and healthy future, to take advantage of what life gives us today, and to take pleasure in the little things.

Take care, God bless, and  
Happy Mother's Day

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## 2022 Vincent Lombardi Lodge Calendar

May 5th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting

May 12th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

June 2nd, 6:30pm: **Council Meeting Cancelled Due to NYS Convention**

June 9th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

**June 24th, 6pm: 50th Anniversary Celebration Webster Country Club (440 Salt Rd, Webster)**

July 7th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting

**July 14th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting and Scholarship Awards Night (Location TBD)**

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 21st: 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)**

\*\*\*You will find our calendar information has changed. At our meeting on May 5th, the council discussed ways to engage you more in the organization. We realize and appreciate most people do not really like sitting in meetings unless there is something substantive being offered. Our bylaws state we are required to have monthly meetings, but it does not say what those meetings should look like. After much discussion it was decided that we would take advantage of our events and utilize them as mini meetings providing you with announcements, what you need to know about events, and what is happening with your council. Please mark your calendars accordingly and be aware of emails from me which may be a necessary change. Much of the information presented at the meetings can be provided via email. We hope this meets with your approval. We know you enjoy and attend our events, and since many of you attend our events, this is a prime opportunity to use them as meetings. The meeting portion will be short and to the point with details sent to you in emails. In those months we do not have events, we will still have a regular business meeting, but we hope we can get a speaker to educate us on some needed information. Be on the lookout for that, too\*\*\*



***Happy Mother's Day to all of our lodge moms!***



***Honoring all of the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military.***

## We have a new lodge logo!

This was designed by Past President Jennifer Rubé and we are adopting it as our official lodge logo. I know I speak for myself and my parents when I say how proud we are, and how proud she would have been, that her design will be such an important part of our lodge communications.



5/6: Vincenzo Buonomo  
5/18: Salvatore DiPerna  
5/20: Dawn DiGennaro

5/26: Angela Cataldi  
5/31: Scott DiMarco



Sending heartfelt condolences to the DiFilippo and Capogreco Families.

Antoinetta DiFilippo, sister to Luigi and Frank DiFilippo, aunt to Franca, Jeremy and Becky DiFilippo, and Dawn DiGennaro, passed away May 5th. Calling hours will be held on May 8th from 1pm-4pm at Bartolomeo & Perotto Funeral Home and the service will be held on May 9th at 11am at the Parish of the Holy Family. Her obituary can be found here: <https://www.bartolomeo.com/obituary/644691/antoinetta-difilippo/>

Yolanda Capogreco, wife of Joe Capogreco, passed away April 24th. Her obituary can be found here: <https://www.democratandchronicle.com/obituaries/rdc171723>

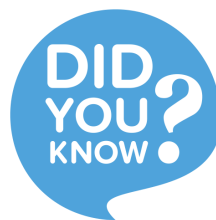
Antoinetta and Yolanda were friends to many in our lodge, and will be sorely missed.



Sending prayers for good health to Brother David DiNicola, Sister Sandy Meleca, Brother Ezio Bonanni, Sister Lila Bonanni and all of our members who have been ill.



At the 2022 Spirit Gala for our Lady of Mercy School for Young Women, the Gugino Family was honored with the *Sister Mary Francesca Award for Service to the Mercy Community*. Congratulations to the Gugino Family on this well deserved award!



Casa Italiana at Nazareth College Center for Italian Studies and Culture marks their 45th anniversary this year! The Casa provides a broad range of educational, social and cultural programs related to Italy. To learn more about this incredible community resource for all things Italian, visit [www2.naz.edu/casa-italiana](http://www2.naz.edu/casa-italiana)

## Akragas Folk Dance Group

On Saturday evening, April 23rd, the Casa Italiana at Nazareth college sponsored the Akragas Folk Dancers from Sicily. Concerned that traditions would soon be forgotten, a group of young people decided that one way to hold to tradition and share it with others is through dance. They did the research on folk dancing and staged the performance for the folkloristic, historic, and cultural traditions of the Sicilian people. Their costumes are representative of a historical period at the end of the nineteenth century. The music, dances, and songs are symbolic of the grand history of the Sicilian people which includes the Greek, Turkish, Romans, Arabic, Spanish, and Norman dominations that influenced and molded the Sicily we have today.



## NYSOSDIA

### Commission on Social Justice

### Taking Action

A recent issue of Primo, A Magazine for and About Italian Americans, printed an article that is every parent's worst nightmare. You can find the entire article at [onlineprimo.com](http://onlineprimo.com), but here is a short synopsis: a student from Battiglia, Italy, 17-year-old Claudio Mandia, admitted to school administrators he cheated on a math exam. On February 14th, he was removed from class and told he was expelled from EF Academy, a prestigious boarding school downstate. He was made to collect his belongings, and then was escorted to a separate wing and place in isolation where he was kept for four days. Having not heard from Claudio, his younger sister pleaded for them to check on him. On February 17th, they entered the room to find he had hung himself.

This is not the first time something like this has happened at EF Academy. Last year another Italian student suffered the same indignation and also attempted suicide.

EF Academy violated NYS Law which states "any person twenty-one years of age or younger shall not be placed in segregated confinement for any length of time." Claudio's treatment at the hands of EF Academy administrators is reprehensible, inhumane, and inexcusable. Claudio's parents want EF Academy and the administration to be held accountable for what happened to their son. Changes must be made by the NYS Department of Education on their lack of oversight of private boarding schools.

A letter signed by the National CSJ Chair, Robert Ferrito, NYS CSJ Chair, John Fratta, and NYS Grand Lodge Michele Ment to the Hon. Miriam E. Rocah, District Attorney Westchester County, 188 Tarrytown Road White Plains NY 10607 demanding a full investigation and to hold EF Academy and its administrators accountable. The CSJ is asking the members of OSDIA to write to the Hon. Rocah demanding the same. This is not something that just happens to other people. It could happen to us, our children, our grandchildren, or any young school age person in our family. Remember the saying, "There but for the grace of God go I."

## Italian Contributions to World Civilization

### *St. Thomas Aquinas*

Tommaso d'Aquino was born 1225, in Roccasecca, then part of the Kingdom of Sicily and now in the province of Lazio. His father was Landulf of Aquino and his mother was Theodora Caracciolo, both hailing from notable families. Showing exceptional intelligence even as young child, his family destined him for the clerical life and to follow in the footsteps of his uncle, then a Benedictine abbot. Thomas began his education at the age of five at the abbey school of Monte Casino and later entered the University of Naples.

His experience at Naples sharply influenced his entire future. It was there that he first encountered Aristotelianism (its most extreme form, Averroism), and came under the influence of a Dominican preacher, John of St. Julian. He determined to join that order of teachers instead of the Benedictines. His parents so strongly disapproved of this choice that they kidnapped and held him prisoner for nearly a year before allowing him to join the Dominicans. His years as a university professor were often occupied with contending against Averroism, then considered a dangerous heresy.

At the University of Paris his fellow students dubbed him the "Dumb Ox" because of his quiet nature and corpulence. But his teacher, Albertus Magnus proved correct when he retorted: "You call him the dumb ox, but in his teaching will one day produce such a bellowing that it will be heard throughout the world." He became a scholar at the universities at Paris, Cologne, and later Naples finally settling at Paris, where he was appointed a regent master in theology.

Thomas was a rigorous and systematic thinker who faced the challenges of Aristotelianism at a time when the works of the Greek philosopher were just entering the western canon. In the conflict between reason and faith, Thomas taught that although human intellect alone could lead us to many truths, supreme knowledge could only be attained with God's help.

His masterful presentation of Christian beliefs, the *Summa Theologica*, begun in 1265, cemented his reputation as the greatest of medieval philosophers.

In the last few years of his relatively short life he became more and more absorbed in a life of prayer and reflection. He was reputed by a contemporary to have levitated while overcome by prayerful tears in front of an icon of Jesus. In December 1273, while celebrating mass he experienced a deep and long lasting ecstasy, that left him bedridden, after which he refused to write anymore, declaring that his previous works were "like straw."

On his way to the Second Council of Lyon in 1274, he struck his head on the limb of a tree and never recovered. He passed away on 7 March 1274. He died a revered figure in his own day, and was counted among the citizens of Paradise in Dante's *Divine Comedy*. In 1323 Pope Paul XXII raised him to sainthood. His feast day is 28 January.



~. A Friend of Matteo Teresi

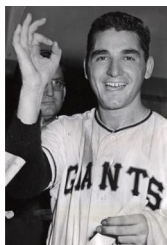
## Rochester Italian Americans in the Public Eye



Long time Gates resident, **Joe Altobelli** was first baseman and outfielder for the Cleveland Indians and Minnesota Twins for three seasons in the Major Leagues, but he is best remembered as manager of three teams-San Francisco Giants, Baltimore Orioles, and Chicago Cubs, with the Baltimore Orioles winning the World Series Championship in 1983. In the 1970's he

managed the Rochester Red Wings for six seasons, and then returned in 1991 as the team's general manager. He retired in 2009. Known as Rochester's "Mr. Baseball," he passed away March 3, 2021.

As a high schooler in Detroit, Michigan, Joseph Salvatore Altobelli was earned All-City recognition for his baseball, football, and basketball prowess. In 1966 he moved his family to Rochester and called it home.



**Johnny Antonelli** was a left-handed pitcher with a career record of 126 wins and 110 losses in the major leagues with his best season in 1954 while with the New York Giants. He won 21 games during the regular season and then went on to win the World Series against the Cleveland

Indians.

He also played for the Boston / Milwaukee Braves and Cleveland Indians between 1948 and 1961, when he retired.

He returned to Rochester and focused on his Firestone business, which he ran for 40 years.



### A SIP OF WINE *Vietti Barbera d'Asti Tre Vigne*

Ruby purple color with ripe red cherry aromas and hints of sweet spices. A dry, medium bodies red wine with refreshing acidity, well balanced with good integration of oak, good complexity, and a long finish of red cherries.

Patriarch Mario Vietti started the winery in 1919 when he changed the family farm into grape growing and wine producing business. In 1952, they continued to produce high quality wines and became one of the top produces in Piemonte. They were one of the first wineries to export products to the United States.

It pairs well with: Antipasti, rich salads, grilled seasoned vegetables, hearty soups, pasta, pork, chicken with light sauces.



### Did you know?

Italy's Best Universities numbers 56 among the 1,543 most distinguished academic institutions worldwide. (The Local, 4-5-2022) The top ten are: Polytechnic University of Milan, University of Bologna, University of

Rome at LaSapienza, University of Padua, University of Milan, Polytechnic University of Turin, University of Pisa, San Raffaele University, University of Naples Federico II, and the University of Trento. Many of their courses/ programs are highly ranked.

The rankings are done by the U.S. News & World Report, which provides vital information on how universities compare globally. The criteria used for determination are: Global research reputation 12.5%, Regional research reputation 12.5%, Publications 10%, Books 2.5% Conferences 2.5%, Normalized citation impact 10%, Total citations 7.5%, number of publications are among the 10% most cited 12.5%, and percentage of total publications are among the 10% most cited.



### Espresso: A Coffee with History

Espresso comes from the word esprimere meaning to express or to press out. One of Italian's favorite hot beverages originated in the late 1800's. Early on there were numerous patents, but the first machine is attributed to Angelo Moriondo of Turin. His machine was known as the "new steam machinery for the economic and instantaneous confection of coffee beverage." (Smithsonian Magazine June 2012) This particular machine was a bulk brewer, meaning it brewed for a number of people at one time. In 1901 a patent was granted to Luigi Bezzera (Milan) who improved the machine and was called "Tipo Gigante". It was able to hold varying sized filters. His patent was bought by Desiderio Pavoni, and he started to produce espresso machine in 1905 through his company LaPavoni. In 1927 the first one was installed at Reggion's in New York.

Espresso is made by forcing pressurized water through finely ground coffee beans. It produces a concentrated drink with a delicate foam or crema. November 23, 2022 is National Espresso Day, so grab a cup and enjoy!



### **A Mamma**

**By Salvatore di Giacomo, Neapolitan Poet**

Chi tene 'a mamma  
è ricche e nun 'o sape;  
chi tene 'o bbene  
è felice e nun ll'apprezza

Pecchè ll'ammore 'e mamma  
è 'na ricchezza  
è comme 'o mare  
ca nun fernesce maje.

Pure ll'omme cchiù triste e malamente  
è ancora bbuon si vò bbene 'a mamma.

'A mamma tutto te dà,  
niente te cerca

E si te vede e' chiagnere  
senza sapè 'o pecché,  
t'abbraccia e te dice: "Figlio!!!"  
E chiagne nsieme a te.

Who has got his Mother  
is rich and does not know;  
who has her love  
Is happy and does not value it

Because a mother's love  
Is a wealth  
Is like the sea  
that never ends.

Even the saddest and vilest man  
is still good if he loves his mother.

A mother gives you everything,  
seeks nothing from you

And if she sees you cry  
without knowing why,  
she hugs you and says, "O son!!!"  
And cries with you.

## **SAVE THE DATE**

Sons of Italy 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
June 24, 2022 - Webster Golf Club



Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 - Rochester, New York  
6/23/1972 - 6/23/2022

OSDIA Vincent Lombardi Lodge  
84 Mulcahy Blvd  
Rochester, NY 14624

**President**  
Marjorie Focarazzo

**Vice-President**  
Marisa Rubé Przepiora

**Recording Secretary**  
Patricia Bartholomew

**Financial Secretary**  
Melissa DiStaffen

**Treasurer**  
Carol DiNicola

**Orator**  
Joe Rubé

**Mistress of Ceremony**  
Lillian Bonanni

**Sentinel**  
Luigi DiFilippo

**Trustees**  
Tom Meleca  
Louis DeCarolis  
Catherine DiNicola  
Ron Santoli  
Jeremy DiFilippo

**Immediate Past President**  
Sandra Meleca

**Chaplain**  
Patricia Galante

**District VIII State Trustee**  
Vincent Giannantonio

**Chaplain Emeritus**  
Sister Carole Proia

**State Deputy to Vincent Lombardi Lodge**  
Peter Gillotte

**State Deputy to Geneva Lodge**  
Jeremy DiFilippo

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Joseph Lusardi\*  
Thomas Laverne\*  
Louis Giambra\*  
Joseph Vazzana \*  
John March\*  
Victor Bell\*  
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Shirley Sculli  
Phillip Dattilo  
Joseph Berta\*  
Joseph Rubé  
Jennifer Rubé\*  
Vincent Giannantonio  
Sandra Meleca

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