



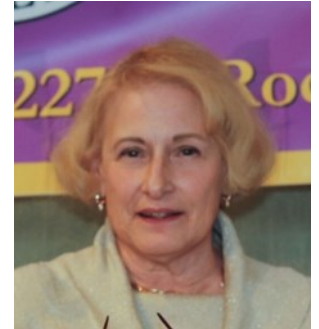
The Roar of the Lion

Marisa Rubé Przepiora, editor
February 2023 edition

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are halfway through winter, the holidays have come and gone, and we are thinking about gardening and what we want to plant or perhaps even a vacation. We have a lot to look forward to this year.

We are in the midst of planning a Cibi dinner with Chef Rosita Caridi-Miller. The menu will center around the Lazio region located in central Italy bordering on the Tyrrhenian Sea and the Apennine Mountains with Rome as the capital and the heart of the Roman Empire. With this fantastic meal, we thought we would do something a little different than just have wine available, but to pair the wine with each course.



Once again, we plan to march (or drive) down Commercial Street and place a wreath at the Station of Heroes in the Edmund Lyon Park to commemorate those soldiers who gave their lives. It is a great event where we greet those who line the street and thank our veterans. We encourage our members and their families to join us.

We always look forward to the Awards Ceremony where we congratulate the recipients of our scholarships and awards from our Lodge and the NYS Grand Lodge Scholarship Programs. Sr, Marisa Przepiora does a fantastic job of putting this together each year, and it is a wonderful opportunity to put a face with a name and to get to know such wonderful young adults.

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NYS Grand Lodge will, this year, return to a full compliment of activities for their convention to be held at the Desmond in Albany. A new president and executive board will be elected this year, so if anyone would consider being a delegate, please let the council know. The dates are June 8th thru June 11th. Our Lodge does pay for registration, convention, hotel, and food.

I would guess our Members' Picnic is the highlight of our year, which will once again be held at the Quinzi Lodge in Eyer Park. We are able to break bread and enjoy all the goodies our members share with each other. This year the date has changed to earlier in August on the 5th, which turns out to be a Saturday, the only day left on the park's rental calendar. A huge thank you to Richard Meleca for allowing us to use his home to make our delicious sausage each year.

We celebrate Italian Heritage Month with our dinner on October 27th. Plans will begin soon to decide on our award winners. Anyone wanting to be on the committee, please let me know. We will be setting a meeting soon to discuss who our recipients should be. Our year would not be complete without our December Holiday Meeting. Something to look forward to but not in a big hurry to get there.

All these events need your help and support. It makes it easier to get things done when more than a few people offer their time and energy. Consider helping with just one event. You will have fun, and you will feel you have contributed to the Lodge.

Take care and God Bless,
Marjorie

2023 Vincent Lombardi Lodge Calendar

March 2nd, 6:30pm: Council Meeting

March 9th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting and Officer Installation (Eyer Building, East Rochester)

April 6th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
April 13th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

May 4th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
May 11th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

May 20th: Cibi Regional Dinner

June 8th - 11th: NYS Grand Lodge Convention (Albany, NY)

June 8th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

July 6th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting

July 13th, 7pm: Scholarship Awards Night (Eyer Building, East Rochester)

August 3rd, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
August 10th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

August 5th: Members Picnic (Quinzi Lodge - Eyer Park, East Rochester)

September 7th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
September 13th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

October 5th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
October 12th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

October 27th: Italian American Heritage Dinner (Webster Country Club)

November 2nd, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
November 9th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

Papa Antolini Turkey Raffle: TBA

December 7th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
December 14th, 7pm: Holiday Gathering



La Festa Degli Innamorati Happy Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day celebrates the Queen of Roman gods and goddesses – Juno, the Goddess of Women and Marriage, and so, it is a special day where courtly love is celebrated by lovers of all ages. Italians are known to be romantic, which some believe pulse through their veins.

Italians honor the martyred Saint Valentine according to the legend as a priest during the third century in Rome. He secretly married young men and women in secret because Emperor Claudius outlawed marriage for young men. It was believed that unmarried men made better soldiers, and to maintain his army, he forbade marriage. St. Valentine was martyred on February 14th, and so he is known as the patron saint of love.



**CIBI REGIONAL DINNER
SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2023
FEATURING THE LAZIO REGION
CIBI CHEF ROSITA CARIDI MILLER**

Antipasti

Carciofi alla Romana

Roman style marinated artichokes

salumi (cured meats and cold cuts), southern Italian cheese, olives and crusty bread

IL Primo

Bucatini all'Amatriciana

Bucatini, long thin tube pasta, with Amatriciana sauce,
simply made with Guanciale (cured pork checks), tomatoes and Pecorino cheese.

Il Secondo

Stufatino Alla Romana

Beef braised in red wine

Served with

Potato gnocchi and

Vignarola

*vegetarian stew featuring Lazio's abundant vegetables
artichokes, peas and fava beans*

Insalata

Insalata di Puntarelle

Chicory salad with garlic and anchovy dressing

Frutti e Dolce

Ciambelle al Vino

Lazio's famous wine cookies

Served with seasonal fruit and Vin Santo

More information to follow.



VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE #2270

**PLEASE ATTEND THE INSTALLATION OF THE 2023-2025 COUNCIL ON
THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023 AT 7 PM IN THE EYER BUILDING**

President

Vice President

Orator

Financial secretary

Treasurer

Recording Secretary

Corresponding Secretary

Sentinel

Mistress of Ceremony

Trustees

Marjorie Focarazzo

Jeremy DiFilippo

Joseph Rube`

Marisa Przepiora

Carol DiNicola

Patricia Bartholomew

Karen Pelc

Luigi DiFilippo

Melissa Distaffen

Dr. Maurice Palucci

Ronald Santoli

Kitty DiNicola

Tom Meleca

Becky DiFilippo

Nancy Rube`

Don Campese

Charlene Dodgson

Stephanie Salvatore

Matthew Grosodonia

Chris Przepiora

Arbitration Commissioners

Alternate

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.

Please let Marjorie Focarazzo know if you plan to attend so the right amount of food can be ordered: MAFocarazzo@gmail.com.

**YOUR COUNCIL APPRECIATES YOUR SUPPORT, SO WE HOPE YOU WILL
JOIN US.**



2/3: Pat Galante

2/9: Jim Caternolo

2/11: Sandra Witmer

2/12: Joe Galante

2/18: Stephen Cataldi

2/20: Andrea Cole, Vivian Sciortino

2/21: Frank Giancaterin

2/27: Sandy Meleca

2/28: Joe Capogreco

Member in the News



Sister Rosita Caridi-Miller was the cover story in the January/February edition of 55+ Magazine. A two page spread called *Rosita Caridi-Miller: American with Italian Roots* details her journey to America as a baby, and her life and accomplishments over the past 70+ years. Congratulations Sister Rosita!

You can check out the article here:

<https://www.roc55.com/topstories/coverstories/rosita-caridi-miller-american-with-italian-roots/>

Vincent Lombardi Lodge 2023 Council



At the General Assembly meeting on January 12th, members elected their council who will serve and represent you from 2023 thru 2025. Congratulations to newly elected council!

Your elected representatives work very hard to keep our Lodge functioning and remaining fiscally solvent. They are responsible to their members as well as the NYS Grand Lodge.

Installation will take place on Thursday, March 9th in place of our General Assembly Meeting at the Eyer Building at 7 PM. Light refreshments will be served. More information will be emailed soon. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to attend. Your council needs the support of its members.

- President** Marjorie Focarazzo
- Vice President** Jeremy DiFilippo
- Orator** Joseph Rubé
- Financial secretary** Marisa Przepiora
- Treasurer** Carol DiNicola
- Recording Secretary** Patricia Bartholomew
- Sentinel** Luigi DiFilippo
- Mistress of Ceremony** Melissa Distaffen
- Trustees** Dr. Maurice Palucci, Ronald Santoli, Kitty DiNicola, Tom Meleca, Becky DiFilippo

Arbitration Commissioners: Nancy Rubé, Don Campese, Charlene Dodgson, Stephanie Salvatore, Matthew Grosodonia

Alternate: Chris Przepiora

Interested in being a delegate at our NYS Grand Lodge Convention?



You have the opportunity to represent the Vincent Lombardi Lodge at the 115th Annual New York State Grand Lodge Convention to be held at the Desmond in Albany June 8th thru the 11th. You will meet our state president and the executive committee, trustees, committee chairs, attend a specialized meeting, meet other lodge members, vote on important issues, and have fun. This year, we elect a new state president, executive committee, and council. Registration, hotel, and meals are paid for by our Lodge. We are entitled to send two delegates. If you are interested, please submit your name to me by Feb. 15th. We will vote on who will represent our Lodge electronically

October Heritage Dinner Honoree Selection



The Heritage Dinner Committee is looking for members to serve on the Awards subcommittee. The committee will determine what awards will be given. In the past we have had Women of the Year, Man of the Year, Lifetime Achievement, and Family of the Year. The committee will look at candidates for each category determined to be awarded. The criteria is (1) Must be of Italian descent (2) community accomplishments (what have they done to deserve this award). Each candidate and his/her accomplishments will be discussed, and the committee will recommend that person to the council for final consideration. We will meet via zoom to make the process easy. Please let me know by Feb. 15th

Want to learn Italian?

We are now offering Italian language courses here at the IACC!



Italian language courses for all levels from the teenage beginner who needs help with homework, to the adult that wants to connect with their roots or for traveling needs. Classes taught by Virginia McIntyre; Italian Interpreter, Professor & member of the IACC.

The course will be 3 hours per week for 12 weeks on Saturday mornings from 9:00 am-12:00 pm. Courses cost \$350 for 12 weeks and will begin in February. Payment can be completed by mail, over the phone, or you can stop in the office (150 Frank DiMino Way). Office hours are Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 am-2 pm.

Course Levels

Entry Level A1-2

- Basic Grammar
- Speaking Skills
- Conversational Skills in the past, present, and future
- Introduce yourself
- Cultural Awareness

Intermediate Level B1-2

- Focus on fine tuning skills
- Adding more complex hypotheticals to grammatical knowledge
- Focus will be placed on listening and conversation

Proficiency Level C1-2

- Focus on advanced conversation
- Possible use of zoom/skype to speak to Italians live to apply learned skills
- More complex grammatical concepts
- History of Italian literature

Call us now: 585-594-8882 (ext 101) | For more info: office@iaccrochester.org



UPCOMING ROCHESTER OPERA GUILD EVENTS THIS SEASON:

2/13/23: Bravo Nights at the Little Cafe. Romantic arias for Valentine's Day featuring talent from Roberts Wesleyan University.

Lecture Series at Brighton Memorial Library

3/8/23: The Development of an Opera Singer by Constance Fee, Roberts Wesleyan Director of Voice and former grand opera performer

3/15/23: The Tenor in French Opera, by Peter Dundas

3/22/23: Magical Moments from the Ring! by Cindy Battisti

3/29/23: Plums from Puccini, by Carol Crocca

2023 Italian Holiday Calendar

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- January 1, 2023 (New Year's Day): Sunday
- January 6, 2023 (Epiphany): Friday
- April 10, 2023 (Easter Monday): Monday
- April 25, 2023 (Liberation Day): Tuesday
- May 1, 2023 (Labor Day): Monday
- June 2, 2023 (Italian Republic Day): Friday
- August 15, 2023 (Ferragosto): Tuesday
- November 1, 2023 (All Saints' Day): Wednesday
- December 8, 2023 (Feast of the Immaculate Conception): Friday

Christmas Eve (December 24th) and New Year's Eve (December 31st) are not official public holidays in Italy, but many local companies do give their staff both days off as a gesture of goodwill, although in 2023 both days fall on a Sunday. Christmas Day, which falls on a Monday, is immediately followed by St. Stephen's Day on Tuesday, which will mean another day off for a four day holiday weekend.

2023 'bridges' and long weekends: Whether or not a certain year is a good one for holidays also depends on the number of 'bridges' available.

For the uninitiated, 'fare il ponte' ('to do the bridge') is the noble art of taking an extra day off when a public holiday falls on a Tuesday or Thursday. 2023 does not provide a lot of opportunities to do this. There are only two possible bridges: one for Liberation Day, falling on Tuesday, April 25th and one for Ferragosto, on Tuesday, August 15th.

Italian non-holiday holidays: There are seven dates in Italy's calendar that are considered official but not public holidays, meaning you don't get a day off. These are known as 'solennità civili' (civil feasts) and include National Unity Day on the first Sunday of November, the day of Italy's patron saints Francesco and Caterina on October 4th, and the anniversary of the unification of Italy on March 17th.

There are nearly 30 national and international days of commemoration or celebration that Italy recognizes, including Holocaust Remembrance Day (January 27th), Europe Day (May 9th) and Christopher Columbus Day (October 12th).



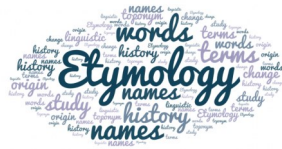
A SIP OF WINE All in the Family

In 1903 Domenico Guarino, 14 years old, arrived in the United States having departed from Naples. He traveled from Toritto in Puglia with only a few dollars in his pockets. His story was not unusual for the time. Poor economy, famine, high unemployment, he came in search of a better life. The fact that he was only 14 years old and left behind his family also is not so unusual. He worked for a few years and returned home but then, again, set out to come back to the United States. Like many young men, he fell in love got married, and had children, but, once again, he uprooted himself and his family to return home to his family in Italy. He stayed a few years only to come back to the US and finally settling in Brooklyn.

Domenico brought with him the values of his parents and his culture. His wife, Maria, although born in the United States, made sure they also brought the Italian style of cooking. And one more thing Domenico brought with him: the tradition of making his own wine. He had the grapes shipped in and along with his neighbors, they would join in the festivities of crushing the grapes and help to produce up to ten barrels every year. When Domenico passed in 1978, the tradition of wine making was passed down to his grandson, Dick Rosano. And now, his daughter Kristen, is the latest family member to be involved in winemaking. Kristen considers it a “beautiful tradition that keeps her connected to her family and Italian heritage.”

Dick Rosano’s first attempt at growing grapes was a dismal failure. He planted 50 Chambourcon vines on his brother’s property near Frederick, Virginia. He found the young shoots needed constant attention and in the end the yield was very small. He gave up growing grapes and instead, purchased them from a fruit dealer, which yielded him 80 bottles of Zinfandel. Over the years, the quantity of grapes grew to nearly a ton. Friends, family, neighbors, as with his grandfather, gathered to crush the grapes, make wine, and carry on an impromptu festival.

Kristen’s first attempt happened while at school in Cleveland completing a residency in pediatrics. She bought 400 pounds of zinfandel grapes imported from California. Like the start of any good wine, she and friends stomped the grapes in her driveway!! She encountered some problems with the fermentation when the temperature rose too quickly, but she sought good advice from her dad at all hours of the day and night, as she explains. She was finally able to get it all under control. She is excited to continue learning the ins and outs of winemaking, and hopes to perfect the process, so she, too, can pass it down to children to keep them connected to her Italian roots.



Italian Words and their Meaning

Ci siamo is made up of the verb **essere** (‘to be’) and the adverb **ci** (‘here/there’), it literally translates as ‘here we are’, but in the form of a question it can mean anything from ‘Are you ready?’ to ‘All good?’

The opposite is *non ci siamo* – ‘that’s not it’, ‘this is going nowhere’, ‘that’s not on’. It can be abbreviated it to **NCS**: ‘nope!’ or ‘nuh-uh!’

Gli Avanzi are the leftovers in your refrigerator.

In alto mare is a common way to express frustration. It literally means on the high seas, but is rarely heard in this context. When used figuratively it is a more common expression and usually heard in regular ordinary conversations. Translated into English it can mean anything from on the rocks to in the weeds to nowhere near done, although these phrases do not match perfectly with the Italian phrase.

Scorciatoia means shortcut.

Prendiamo una scorciatoia per il giardino. (Let’s take a shortcut through the garden.)

Quanto meno means at the very least or as a minimum. *Se avessi saputo prima avrei potuto quanto meno darvi una mano.* (If I had known earlier I would have at least been able to give you a hand.)

Pippone happens when you are involved with someone who doesn’t not know when to stop talking and you realize there is no escape.



Pucker up for Passion in Italy In Time for Valentine’s Day!

Tourism is being encouraged in lesser-known destinations and to do this signs are being installed that read

Zona Romantica (Romantic Zone)

Obbligatorie Baciarsi (Kissing Obligatory!)

The signs have appeared in romantic spots all over Italy. It is a new initiative to promote those areas that are little known to most tourists. A great time and place to get a picture of a romantic encounter. Hopefully sharing it with others will increase tourism to these areas.

Commemoration of Eightieth Anniversary of Carlo Tresca's Assassination



January 11, 2023, marked the eightieth anniversary of the murder of Carlo Tresca, an ardent labor activist, prolific writer, and leader of anti-Fascists in the United States. His biography represents many vital aspects of American history, from his immigration experience to his commitment to the ideals of freedom and equality. He was a revolutionary New Yorker who was gunned down for his outspokenness and his courageous work on behalf of justice.

Carlo Tresca was born in Sulmona, Abruzzo, Italy, and as a youth joined the local socialist movement and began his lifelong work as a labor organizer and editor of radical newspapers. In 1904 he immigrated to the United States and joined others in the struggle for the rights of the industrial working class and against capitalism, the Mafia, and exploitative priests. As an anarcho-syndicalist, Tresca collaborated with other labor activists in a series of era-defining labor strikes including those in Paterson, New Jersey (1913), and Lawrence, Massachusetts (1912). Tresca was an early anti-Fascist who energetically denounced and countered Fascist supporters among the Italian American community. Although no one was brought to trial for Tresca's murder, it is believed that mobster Carmine Galante pulled the fatal trigger on January 11, 1943.

Italy's Most Wanted Mafia Boss Arrested



The Last of the Great Dons Mafia boss, Matteo Messina Denaro, was arrested when police stormed a hospital in Palermo where he was receiving monthly chemo treatments for colon cancer. He was using the alias Andrea Bonatade, trying to keep a low profile. For decades he has been a top leader in Sicily's feared Costra Nostra.

He had been living for years in a Sicilian village, protected by many who knew who he really is.

Known as "Diabolik" he ruled the western Sicilian branch of a multibillion dollar empire that knows no geographical boundaries. Dwenaro's group concentrated on online gaming and betting. He has been convicted of arranging bombings in Florence, Milan, and Rome. In the 1990's he was instrumental in killing two top anti-Mafia prosecutors.

Italian authorities were able to dismantle the Mafia piece by piece after years of being eluded. Denaro claims that he has killed so many people he could fill a cemetery. But his downfall is even being celebrated by the many that colluded with him.

Return of Ancient Fresco from the United States to Italy



One of sixty frescos and other trafficked items that ended up in private collections in the United States will be returned to Italy. A fresco of Hercules, originally came from Herculaneum, a city also destroyed by the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in 79 AD, has already seen its way back home. The fresco is done in the style of Pompeiian art and show Hercules as a child strangling a snake.

Additional pieces is a B.C. kylix, described as a two-handled drinking vessel is believed to be 2600 years old. There is also a sculpted marbled head from the 2nd century the goddess Athena.



These works of art are valued at more than \$20 million or 18 million euros. The works of art were sold by art dealers and there is no known documentation showing they could legally be brought abroad from Italy. A 1909 law forbids any archaeological object from being removed from the country without permission.

Manhattan DA Matthew Bogdanos is cracking down on illicit trafficking of antiquities. He is working collaboratively with Italy's paramilitary Carabinieri. Italy has been working aggressively to retrieve illegally transported antiquities outside of the country. A museum for finding and returning recovered artwork in a museum created just for this, The Museum of Rescued Art. It was inaugurated this past June in a cavernous structure that is part of Rome's ancient Baths of Diocletian.

Recovering and return of such precious and priceless items deprives valuable information about the context of the area where objects were originally found.



ORDER OF SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA
VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE #2270
INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING AGENDA MARCH 9, 2023

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

- | | | |
|-------|---|--|
| I | Assembly will come to order | President Marjorie Focarazzo |
| II | District Deputy will be asked to preside over the installation | President Marjorie Focarazzo |
| III | Outgoing Officers will be asked to the Altar | |
| IV | Outgoing Officers will be thanked for their support and dedication to Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270, the New York State Grand Lodge, and the Supreme Lodge | |
| V | Outgoing officers will be asked to be seated | |
| VI | Newly elected officers will be asked to come Forward and to stand before the Altar | |
| VII | Oath is given | |
| VIII | Newly elected officers will take their seats | |
| IX | Installation has been concluded | |
| X | The regular meeting of the General Assembly will be called to order | Sr. Marjorie Focarazzo |
| XI | Roll call of Officers | Sr. Pat Bartholomew |
| XII | Principals of the Order | Br. Jeremy DiFilippo |
| XIII | Prayer is given by the chaplain | Sr. Pat Galante |
| XIV | Pledge of Allegiance | |
| XV | Moment of Silence | |
| XVI | Minutes of Jan. 12, 2023 and Feb. 5, 2023 | |
| XVII | Communications | |
| | Supreme | |
| | NYS Grand | |
| | Geneva Lodge | |
| | Sunshine and Welfare | |
| | Keep in our prayers: Sandra Meleca, Lillian and Ezio Bonanni | |
| XVIII | Financial Report | |
| | Council has approved the 2023 budget and is bringing it to the general assembly for information | |
| XIX | Committee Reports | |
| | Women's Action Committee (WAC) | |
| | CSJ | Sr. Marjorie Focarazzo |
| | IT | Br. Louis DeCarolis/Sr. Marisa Przepiora |
| | Membership | Sr. Marjorie Focarazzo |
| | Reconciliation Report | |
| | Scholarship | Sr. Marisa Przepiora |
| | Events | |
| | CIBI Regional Dinner in May. Chef Rosita Caridi Miller will cook a favorite meal from the Roma area, May 20 th at 5 pm, Eyer Building | |
| | Membership Picnic, Quinzi Park, Saturday, Aug. 5 th | |
| | NYS Grand Lodge Convention, June 8 th to 11 th , Albany, NY | |
| | Heritage Dinner, Oct. 27 th | |
| | Ad Hoc Committee on NYS Grand Lodge Awards | |
| XX | Trustee Report | Br. Vince Giannantonio |
| XI | Old Business | |
| XII | New Business | |
| XIII | For the Good of the Order | |
| XIV | Adjournment | |
| XV | Refreshments to follow | |

Order of Sons and Daughters of Italy in America
Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270
General Assembly Meeting
January 12, 2023

I Call to Order at 7:10pm Sr. Marjorie Focarazzo

II Roll Call of Officers Sr. Pat Bartholomew

Excused: Sandy Meleca, Lillian Bonanni, Kitty DiNicola, Carol DiNicola, Melissa Distaffen

Council members donned their regalia. Opening prayer was led by Sr. Pat Galante. Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Marjorie Focarazzo followed by a moment of silence.

Minutes of the Holiday Meeting, December 15th was accepted as presented.

III Financial Report: a brief report was presented by Sr. Marjorie in Sr. Melissa's absence.

Audit report(s) for all four quarters of 2022 was given by Br. Louis DeCarolis. The books were found to be correct and up to date.

IV Communications Sr. Marjorie Focarazzo

National - All Member Town Hall meeting, Saturday, Jan 14, 2023 at 12N EST with National President Robert Bianchi; anyone can attend, if interested I will send the link to participate

Grand Lodge - Received membership reconciliation sheets which need to be into the Grand Lodge Office by January 31st
NYS Grand Lodge Scholarship information, OSDIA Calendar of Events, Information for holding elections, Protocol Guidelines, Communication Policy and Procedures, State Awards, Bene Emeritus Award due April 1st, Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro Award Due April 1st, Family of the Year Award Due April 1st, Literary Ward Due March 1st, Membership Award Programs, Community Outreach Awards Due May 1st

Bylaw Changes: this affects the number of delegates sent to convention to represent us, determined by the number of members in good standing by submission of the membership reconciliation to the NYS Grand Lodge on Jan. 31st. Notice for 2023 Convention, June 8th thru 11th at the Crown Plaza, The Desmond Hotel in Albany Received minutes from the October 2022 Plenary Session - Received paperwork that needs to be completed and sent to The Grand Lodge

Geneva Lodge, Nothing to report

Sunshine and Welfare - Keep in our thoughts and prayers: Sandy Meleca, Lillian and Ezio Bonanni, Br. Dominick Calisto whose brother, Victor, passed away; Kitty and Carol's nephew, Matthew DiNicola passed away this morning; Charlene Dodgson's father passed away earlier this week; Br. Ed Groszewski reported that Sam Mammano recently had back surgery and would be moved rehab soon.

Other - East Rochester Chamber of Commerce renewal of our membership, budgeted; calendar of events for 2023. \$50. January 17th from 8 to 9 coffee hour at Wolf Clan, LLC located in Piano Works; Paid the rent for use of the Community Center, budgeted, \$1000

VI Committee Reports

Women's Action Committee (WAC)

Create an ambassador committee to welcome new and/or interested members; they encourage inviting to a meeting or two. Creating a new bookmark, based on Italian entertainers; will be available after their Feb. Plenary Session

Panel Discussion at the National Convention in August. Working on the details.

Next meeting is Feb. 6th

CSJ Sr. Marjorie Focarazzo

La Bella Lingua Award Program: this is only open to graduating seniors in schools that have an Italian Language Program
Mailed to: Gates Chili HS, Greece Athena HS, McQuaid HS, West Irondequoit HS and the Director of Foreign Languages in Greece
CSD on Dec. 3rd; deadline is March 20th.

State CSJ Chairman John Fratta has recently undergone gastrointestinal surgery and was home in time for the holidays

CSJ will celebrate its 41st Anniversary celebration has been postponed because Chairman Fratta is unable to attend and will be re-scheduled at a later date, with a brunch and will honor NYS OSDIA IPP Anthony Naccarato and Dr. Joseph Scelsa, founder and president of the Italian American Museum

The court ordered the city of Philadelphia to remove the wood box from around the statue of Columbus; a victory for CSJ

The New Orleans plaque, to be placed on the site where eleven Italian immigrants were lynched in 1891, is finished but the date for installation has to be determined.

Vince Marmorale has a documentary on the Holocaust, which he is willing to do a presentation on. Vince received the Ambasciatore Award from the Italian American Museum for his work on the Holocaust project.

Recommendation of a new book by Mary Grabar Debunking the 1619 Project.

The 1619 Project is an ongoing initiative from The New York Times Magazine that began in August 2019, which was designated as the 400th anniversary of the beginning of American slavery. Its purpose: to reframe the country's history by placing the consequenc-

es of slavery and the contributions of black Americans at the center of our national narrative.
Received the process for filing a complaint with the CSJ, copies have been forwarded to members.

IT Br. Louis DeCarolis/Sr. Marisa Przepiora

Membership Sr. Marjorie Focarazzo

Scholarship Sr. Marisa Przepiora

Local and State Scholarship information will be mailed to high schools in January
Awards night will be held at the July General Assembly Meeting

Events

Winter Picnic: Feb. 5th at the Bushman Lodge, Veteran's Memorial Park, Henrietta (595 Calkins Road)
Cost is same as last year, \$25 and clams are \$8/dozen We are asking members to help with appetizers and desserts
RSVP by January 27th. Flyer has been sent out.

Installation of elected council members for 2023-2025, March 19th. More information about the installation will be forthcoming.

CIBI Regional Dinner in May. Chef Rosita Caridi Miller will cook a favorite meal from the Roma area. Potential Date is May 20th.

Membership Picnic, Quinzi Park, Saturday, Aug. 5th

Nominating Committee: Brs. Vince Giannantonio, Louis DeCarolis, Frank Giancaterin and Srs. Char Dodgson and Patty Johns
The report of the nominating committee was turned over to Br. Vince Giannantonio. Br. Vince thanked the committee. The slate was presented to the assembly:

President Marjorie Focarazzo; Vice President Jeremy DiFilippo; Orator Joseph Rube`; Financial secretary Marisa Przepiora;
Treasurer Carol DiNicola; Recording Secretary Patricia Bartholomew; Sentinel Luigi DiFilippo; Mistress of Ceremony Melissa Distaffen; Trustees Dr. Maurice Palucci, Ronald Santoli, Kitty DiNicola, Tom Meleca, Becky DiFilippo
Arbitration Commissioners Nancy Rube`, Don Campese, Charlene Dodgson, Stephanie Salvatore, Matthew Grosodonia, Alternate Chris Przepiora

Nominations for all positions were opened to the floor. Seeing none, the recording secretary was asked to cast as single ballot approving all who were presented as now being duly elected. Installation will take place in March.

VII Trustee Report: No report Br. Vince Giannantonio

VIII Old Business

Brother Tom Meleca spoke on the guitar raffle. Cost is \$10 for an individual ticket and \$25 for three tickets. Raffle will take place at the August picnic.

IX New Business

Establish an Ad Hoc committee to look at the state awards (listed above) and make recommendations, if any, to the council.
Deadline for submission, application and supporting documentation is April 1st.

X For the Good of the Order

Virginia McIntyre: Italian language classes at IACC

Legacy at Maiden Lane would like for our Lodge to do a program at their facility; something we tried to do last fall but had to postpone because of Covid surge at their facility

XI Adjournment: 8:11PM

Respectively submitted

Sr. Pat Bartholomew

Recording Secretary

Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270
Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America
Winter Picnic and Clambake General Assembly Meeting
February 5, 2023
Veteran's Memorial Park, Henrietta

Members and guests convened at the Veteran's Memorial Park in Henrietta for their Winter Picnic and Clambake General Assembly Meeting.

Council Members Excused: Carol DiNicola, Lillian Bonanni, Sandra Meleca, Melissa Distaffen

Members and guests were welcomed by Lodge President Marjorie Focarazzo.

The assembly was led in the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence, facing the Italian flag. It was asked for members to keep in their prayers those who are dealing with health issues.

Other announcements made about upcoming events: Installation of new officers, Cibi Regional Dinner; scholarship information has been mailed to all high schools.

Members and guests were invited to enjoy the picnic buffet and clams.

Picnic concluded at 4 pm and members helped to clean up before departing for home.

Submitted by

Marjorie Focarazzo

Lodge President

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

Past Presidents
Joseph Lusardi*
Thomas Laverne*
Louis Giambra*
Joseph Vazzana *
John March*
Victor Bell*
Peter Cimino*
Sam Parese*
Cosmo Caceci*
Michael La Comba*
Shirley Sculli
Phillip Dattilo*
Joseph Berta*
Joseph Rubé
Jennifer Rubé*
Vincent Giannantonio
Sandra Meleca

All Vincent Lombardi Lodge communications should be sent to:

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