



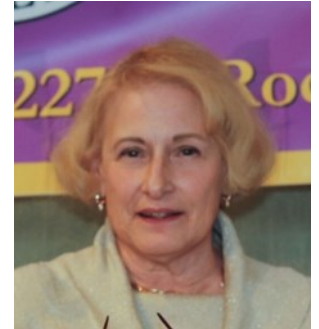
VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE #2270

The Roar of the Lion

Marisa Rubé Przepiora, editor
March 2023 Edition

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Your new council will soon be installed and will be ready to do the work of the Vincent Lombardi Lodge and OSDIA. While most faces look the same, some council members are in different positions. We want to welcome Becky DiFilippo and Maurice Palucci as trustees, Stephanie Salvatore and Matthew Grosodonia are new Commissioners of Arbitration with Chris Przepiora as an alternate. Unfortunately, as we welcome new council members, we say goodbye to others: Lillian Bonanni, while has had some serious health issues that curtailed her activities, she had served as refreshment chair, trustee, and mistress of ceremony. Louis DeCarolis has been quite active on the council for many years as Financial Secretary and Trustee, but also working on several committees and helping out wherever needed. A simple thank you is hardly enough for giving time, dedication, and energy, but the council and the members want Lila and Louis to know that we are so very appreciative for all they have done.



Our members have a lot to look forward to this spring. In May we will once again have our Regional Dinner with Chef Rosita Ciardi Miller preparing food from the Lazio Region of Italy. Check out the flyer for the menu. I don't think you will be disappointed.

East Rochester VFW invites us to march in the Memorial Day Parade, and for those who cannot walk that distance, our vehicles provide a great opportunity to be part of this event. If you don't want to march or ride, sit on the sidelines, and cheer us on. Mark your calendars for the morning of Saturday, May 27th. As we get closer to the date, more information will be available.

The NYS Grand Lodge will resume a full fledge convention this year from June 8th thru June 11th at the Desmond near Albany. We are looking for delegates who would represent us, so please consider it, and let me know by March 20th. The Grand Lodge needs to know before the end of the month who will be attending from our Lodge.

We are beginning to plan for the Heritage Dinner on Friday, Oct. 27th at the Webster Golf Club on Salt Road. Do you know of anyone who has been active in their community in some way, is Italian or Italian descent? You can nominate that person to be considered for our Christopher Columbus Italian American Heritage Award. Send their name and the reason you are nominating that person by March 22nd for consideration. We need a committee to determine our award recipients, and if you would like to serve on that committee, please let me know by March 31st.

There are many ways to get involved with the Lodge: serve on a committee, help with an event, suggest something new and different to try, recommend a speaker. This is your Lodge and to be successful, it takes all of us.

Take care and God Bless,
Marjorie

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2023 Vincent Lombardi Lodge Calendar

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, 5pm: Italian Regional Dinner (Eyer Building, East Rochester)

May 27th, 10:30am: East Rochester Memorial Day Parade

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

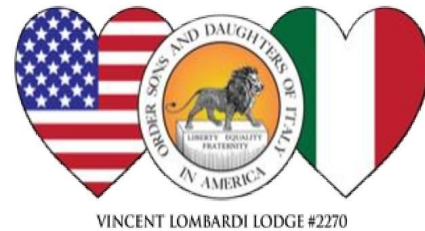
December 7th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
December 14th, 7pm: Holiday Gathering



ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN ITALY

The Feast of Saint Patrick, the foremost patron saint of Ireland, is a cultural and religious celebration commemorating when Christianity arrived in Ireland, is held on March 17th. But is it celebrated in Italy? The Italians celebrate all things Irish with Irlanda in Festa, especially in Florence and Bologna, with live concerts, food, drinks, and other festival activities. The Month of March is shaded in many hues of green in honor of St. Patrick with a parade kicking off the four-day celebration.

I hate to be the one to reveal this, but St. Patrick was Irish and was born in what is now Scotland, Wales, or England, to a Christian deacon and his wife about 390AD.



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



3/6: Jeffrey Arigo
3/8: Chris Przepiora
3/10: Ann Battaglia
3/14: Kitty DiNicola

3/16: Don Campese
3/23: Nick Baross
3/26: Mary Rinere
3/30: Shirley Sculli



Please keep Lila and Ezio Bonanni, Patty and Gordon Rask, Sandy Meleca, and Former OSDIA First Lady Mary Naccarato in your prayers as they continue to recover from illness.



Congratulations to Joe Capogreco, celebrating 56 years of his radio show, Italian Carousel, this month!



New York State Grand Lodge Foundation Raffle

New York State Grand Lodge Foundation, Inc.
Order Sons of Italy in America
2023 Charitable and State Programs



1st Prize \$20,000	2nd Prize \$5,000	3rd Prize 2 @ \$2,000
4th Prize 3 Prizes of \$1,000 Each	5th Prize 5 Prizes of \$500 Each	

Drawing will take place at the Grand Lodge of New York
Bellmore, New York on Saturday, June 10, 2023
Donation \$100.00 per ticket • Winners need not be present
Town of Hempstead Lic. #951

**Note: Full first prize paid to winner upon sale of 80% or more of the raffle tickets;
If less than 80% of the tickets are sold, first prize is \$15,000.

Tickets will be sold through May 22, 2023

Buy one for yourself, as a gift, or go in with others to share the \$100 cost.

Pick a favorite number:

88, 89, 285, 286, 380, 381, 488, 489, 578, 580, 581, 677, 779, 878, 982

CONTACT: Marjorie at mafocarazzo@gmail.com or 585-749-5346

Tickets will go fast so get yours early!

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 prior to our March GA Meeting. 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 Marjorie know ASAP.

Mark Your Calendar - Italian Marching Bands!

Four Marching Bands coming in from Italy, France, Belgium, and NY
Trommelfluit Flanders (Belgium),
Fifres Et Tambours De Saint-Tropez (France),
Gruppo Pifferi E Tamburi Ivrea (Italy),
Camden Continentals (NY, USA).

The Towpath Volunteer Fife and Drum Corps will be hosting these bands and have arranged a free community event to showcase their talents! Save the date to enjoy the music of these bands:

Saturday, September 2nd

Macedon Heritage Festival on the Erie Lock 30 - Macedon

Sunday, September 3rd

Marion Bi-Centennial Celebration - Marion Town Park

Sunday, September 3rd

Perinton Center Stage Amphitheatre

Monday, September 4th

Fort Ontario Oswego

Welcome Spring - March 20th

Spring in Italy is filled with festivals. Easter Week is filled with traditions, rituals, and lots of food as the Lenten season ends. One such celebration in Florence is the Scoppio del Carro or explosion of the cart which starts with parades in medieval costumes on Easter morning and fireworks in the evening. Easter Monday or La Pasquetta is a day for festivities and social gatherings.

April 25th marks Liberation Day, the anniversary of Italy being liberated by the allies during World War II. It is also the Festa di San Marco, the patron saint of Venice. On this festa day, Venetian gentlemen present the woman they love with a red rosebud or bocolo.

Sagra del Pesce Festival is held in Camogli, south of Genoa on the second Sunday in May. Fishermen swap their nets and don aprons to spend the day frying the fish they catch in a giant saucepan that is 5 meters wide and has a 7 meter handle. The festival is dedicated to St. Fortunato, patron saint of fisherman. In the evening, on the eve of the Festival, there are bonfires on the beach and real wooden sculptures are burnt. The sculptures are built each year differently by the inhabitants of Porto and Pinetto, two districts of Camogli.



Spring is a time for flowers and there is no better place to celebrate gardens and plants than the Infiorata di Noto, late May thru early June, the picturesque Baroque town in southeast Sicily. Carpets of flowers of all hues and scents fill the town and surrounding areas. During the actual festival, artists create and design floral displays.

St. Joseph's Day Sunday, March 19, 2023

The Feast of St. Joseph is the principal feast day of the husband of the Virgin Mary and the legal father of Jesus Christ, and has the rank of solemnity in the Catholic Church. For attending mass, the popular custom is to wear red clothing and carry fava beans that have been blessed.

A popular Italian tradition is to set the Tavola di San Giuseppe with pasta, vegetables, fresh fish, eggs, pastries, fruit and wine, breads, and to invite the poor for a meal. St. Joseph's altar is a table with three levels to represent the trinity: father, son and holy ghost.

The Feast of St. Joseph generally falls in the middle of Lent and is celebrated throughout Italy, but especially in Sicily where St. Joseph has been long revered as the island's patron saint.

Coincidentally, March 19th is also Father's Day in Italy, as St. Joseph was the foster father of Jesus and serves as a symbolic "thank you".

Legend has it this tradition started in the Middle Ages when a severe drought destroyed the crops, livestock and farm animals perished, famine prevailed, and the people of Sicily in their desperation prayed to St. Joseph for help. The clouds opened and the rains fell from the heavens soaking the parched earth and quenching the thirst of the animals and people. Crops were planted and harvested once again.

People healed and thrived and to show their gratitude, a table of special foods was prepared to honor St. Joseph and the food was distributed to the less fortunate. The tradition became an annual event and is celebrated throughout Italy. Huge buffets are prepared, and the community invites the homeless and sick, the poor, and the less fortunate.

St. Joseph's Day



International Women's Day March 8th

International Women's Day is a global holiday to bring awareness to women's rights, gender equality, reproductive rights, and violence and abuse against women.

It was officially recognized by the United Nations in 1977 but it started in 1857 when female textile workers protested against unfair working conditions. It was one of the first organized strikes by working women asking for a shorter workday and decent wages. In 1908 women workers marked through New York's lower east side to protest against child labor, sweatshops, and demanded the right to vote.

We can trace back farther to Trota of Salerno, who has become known as the Grandmother of Gynecology, after studying and practicing at the Medical School of Salerno during the 1100s. There are no biographical records on Trota, but there is evidence of her academic work. She had a lofty goal as an educator—to describe women's matter to men to better inform them and teach them. As a medical provider she specialized in what would be known today as women reproductive and health issues, pregnancy, and childbirth. But you may have guessed, that women of that time period and well beyond who authored works were more often than not attributed to men.

In 1985 a text that was clearly written by Totas was found in Madrid, titled, *Practica secundum Trotam* which overlapped with another text *De curis mulierum*, which described what she did in the treatment of women. Some of her hypotheses were dismissed and thought radical. We can be appreciative of the work she started on behalf of women.



NYSOSDIA Commission on Social Justice We Celebrate Columbus for our Heritage

President Marjorie Focarazzo



*Police said vandals spray-painted the statue Sunday night. They also wrote "Land back" on three sides. Jennifer Mitchell for Fox News Digital
New York Post March 3, 2023*

Did March come in like a lion or a lamb? My guess would be like a lion, because the National and State CSJ are ready to take on the fight.

In the last days of February two people vandalized the Christopher Columbus statue located in Central Park with sprayed the word murderer with red paint on one side, but "land back" on the other three sides of the bronze and granite monument. According to the police, after viewing unreleased footage, the suspects are a man and woman. Immediately following the damaged statue, metal barricades surrounded the 131 year old statue.

The Christopher Columbus statue was gifted to Central Park in 1892 by the Genealogical and Biographical Society to honor the explorer's 400th anniversary of his arrival to the new world.

In 1929, Italian American newspaper publisher Generoso Pope organized the first parade to honor Christopher Columbus in New York City, but today the reason is a display of unity. We know his voyages in search of better way to the western world for spices and goods was the beginning of the Age of Exploration. We know his navigational skills are still used today by mariners, but there is more. His tenacity was followed by all those who searched for liberty, opportunity, and a better life. Isn't this the reason our great grandparents, grandparents, or even ourselves came here—the search for a better life. His actions united humanity whether we want to admit it or not, otherwise the western hemisphere would have remained isolated, divided by two great bodies of water. Columbus can be blamed for or given credit due for integrating a new language, culture and faith but also embracing what he found which was different from his upbringing. It is also recognized and accepted there were wrong doings and suffering that followed. No one is denying that.

It wasn't until four hundred years later major waves of Italians tried to immigrate to the United States in search of that liberty, opportunity, and a better life, and the things Columbus is blamed for doing was suffered upon our ancestors: bigotry, exploitation, and ridicule. But the Italians who came in to Ellis Island were resilient, and they persevered. They prospered and became influential members of society. Through their sweat and tears, we are able to gather each month to celebrate who we are.

From Generoso Pope's simple idea of gathering to celebrate Columbus and his achievements, we, too, can celebrate our culture and pride and mostly a better life.

International Women's Day



Little Known Italian Renaissance Artist

Vittore Carpaccio



Vittore Carpaccio may not be as well known as Michelangelo or DaVinci, but this Renaissance artist's work is being shown in the National Gallery in Washington, DC.

Born in Venice, he studied at the Bellini Studio. His paintings and drawings are detailed with doves and birds in his six paintings of "Life of the Virgin" series to bones and other body parts left by the dragon after impaling St. George.

His most famous painting, *St. Augustine in His Study*, stages the drama you see from the room's furnishings to the scattered books to seashells, to the statue of Jesus with a white scruffy dog in the middle of it all.



His art work can be seductive and you can find yourself getting lost in the detail. As he aged, his work grew sloppier, and he adopted a strange, cartoonish style. His work tells us life will never run out of things to say to us. We need to just keep looking.

Italian Contributions to World Civilization

Catherine of Siena



A medieval mystic and a thoroughly modern activist are seamlessly joined together in the person of St. Catherine. The image of Caterina di Jacopo di Benincasa (1347-1380) shimmers in front of our eyes: one moment an ecstatic visionary and the next an 'in your face' feminist. Now we wonder about her physical and mental health; now we cheer on her challenges to authority. Just as Catherine defies categorization, we must also leave our preconceptions behind.

Catherine's mystical life began when she was about five or six years old. Walking home with her brother one day she had her first vision: she saw Christ, seated in glory, together with the apostles Peter, Paul, and John. Within a year of this momentous event, she vowed to give her entire life to God. About ten years later Catherine's vow erupted in an act of fiery defiance. When her family expected her to marry the widower of her older sister, she did more than refuse the marriage. She stopped eating.

She cut off her long hair. This was open rebellion. No marriage and motherhood for Catherine, and no nun's life in a convent either. She would live life on her own terms, and her family would have to accept it. Years later her quiet life of solitary prayer ended with another vision so powerful as to be (perhaps) beyond comprehension. She entered into a mystical marriage with Jesus, sealed with a ring of His flesh which was invisible to all but Catherine. Christ told her to leave her life of isolation and enter into the affairs of the world. So, powerfully impelled, she did more than aid the poor and suffering, she plunged into church and worldly politics.

In 1374 Catherine and some of her followers were summoned to Florence by the Dominicans and she began to preach reform and repentance not only to the masses but also to church leaders. Two themes dominated her political views. She urged an end the Avignon papacy through letter writing campaign and even a personal visit to the French city. After a strenuous campaign of letter writing, Pope Gregory XI did eventually return to Rome, but what effect her letters had in this decision is unclear. Her other target was reforming the abuses of the church itself, a campaign she continued throughout the rest of her life.

In spite of this worldly involvement Catherine, Catherine found time to write (or perhaps dictate) her great theological work, *The Dialogue*, and hundreds of letters.

At the end of her life she was reputed to eat only one consecrated host each day. This extreme asceticism, practiced in other forms during her life probably weakened her body greatly and she died in 1380 at the age of 33. She was canonized in 1461, and made the patron saint of Rome in 1866. Along with only one other woman (Teresa of Avila) Pope Paul VI declared her a Doctor of the Church in 1970.

~A friend of Matteo Teresi

News from Italy



Prosecco wars: Italy protests Croatia's bid for special status for its prošek wine

Prosecco is one of Italy's most famous – and most often imitated – wines, and for a second time is fighting to block Croatia's attempts to get EU recognition for its dessert wine, describing the move as "an attack on Made in Italy". Luca Zaia, governor of the Prosecco-producing region Veneto says Prosecco has its own identity.

Croatian winemakers agree the two names sound alike because the two countries have historical and linguistic connections, but buyers will certainly be able to tell the two wines apart. The Croatian Prošek is a sweet, dessert wine made near the Adriatic coast from grapes that are dried in the sun, so the sugar is concentrated. Italian Prosecco is a sparkling wine produced exclusively in northern Italy, which 15 regions have the highest classification for wines with Superiore DOCG, from the glera grape and sometimes blended with other white wine varieties.

New Discovery

More than 20 beautifully preserved bronze statues dating back to the Roman Empire have been uncovered by archaeologists in San Casciano dei Bagni in Siena in the Tuscany region. The statues depict Greco-Roman gods are considered to be 2,300 years old. This is one of the most important finds in recent years. According to Massimo Osanna, Director General of Italy's State Museums, this is the most significant find of bronze in the Mediterranean area depicting ancient history.



A SIP OF WINE Chocolate and Wine Pairing



Both chocolate and wine are filled with antioxidants, which are linked to good health and to the prevention of cancer and heart disease. But they are also an enjoyable addition to a meal or even on their own.

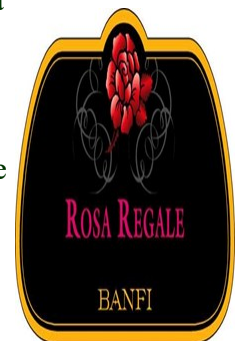
There is magic when we combine a piece of rich, dark chocolate with a glass of hearty red wine. The bitterness of dark cocoa tames down the bitterness in the wine created by the tannins, which come from five sources: grape skins, seeds, stems, oak, and additives. The tannins are what contains the antioxidants, that protect the cells against free radicals (unstable atoms that can cause damage to cells resulting in illness and aging). The wine, in turn, can bring out the delicateness of the chocolate, making a great combination.

Dark chocolate has a natural bitterness caused by a higher concentration of cacao and lower levels of sweetness. When pairing chocolate and wine it is best to avoid opposites. A good rule of thumb is to pair wines that are sweet of slightly sweeter with chocolate that will be enjoyed.

It is best to match intensity with intensity. A delicate piece of chocolate will be overpowered by a heavy, full bodied red wine. Pair light flavored chocolates with light bodied wines and more robust, full bodied wines intense flavored chocolate.

Match flavor with flavor. That piece of chocolate could very well have ripe berry notes or even pieces of fruit in the chocolate. Put together a very fruit forward wine with ripe berry flavors, spicy chocolate flavor with a wine that tastes spicy, and chocolate filled with nuts with a nutty wine, like Madeira.

Rosa Regale Brachetto d'Acqui 2021, Piemonte Region is produced by the Castello Banfi family located in the Brunello region of Tuscany. Brachetto d'Acqui is a DOCG and the grapes for this wine are crafted from grapes grown exclusively at the La Rose Vineyard. It is produced by the Charmat process or Metodo Italiano. On the nose it is aromatic with a hint of rose petals and raspberries. It is made for dark chocolate!!



OSDIA Vincent Lombardi Lodge
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Rochester, NY 14624

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Vice-President
Jeremy DiFilippo

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