



The Roar of the Lion

Annette DeCarolis, *editor*
November 2024 Edition

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thanks to all who helped with our recent Heritage Dinner. It is always a challenge to try to remember everyone who has given of their time and effort to one of our events. But I want each of you to know that even if I do not personally thank you, I am most appreciative and grateful. I want to express my gratitude to Carol DiNicola and Vince Giannantonio for setting up and thanks to everyone who lingered longer than they intended to make sure the banquet room looked the same as we found it on Friday morning. Not always an easy task.

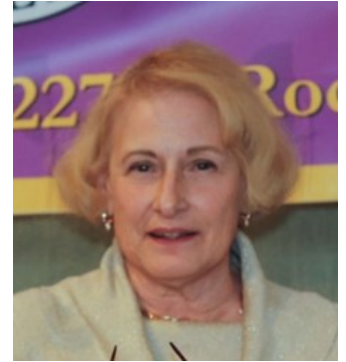
Our honorees will be featured in this issue of the newsletter. If you have not had the opportunity to meet them in person, they can be found living and working in our community. Congratulations to all our honorees.

Our next big event is the Papa Antolini Turkey Raffle, a long-standing tradition for our Lodge. The night would not be complete without the entertainment of the ROC City Singers under the direction of Judith Ranaletta. This is a show you do not want to miss. Bring a guest for an evening of good food and great entertainment.

Our holidays will soon be here. They are celebrated in numerous ways depending on our own traditions, but for many Christians, Christmas marks the birth of Jesus. We exchange gifts in honor of His birthday, as we do within our own families or with friends. Mark your calendars for our December 12th General Assembly Meeting as a holiday gathering to enjoy each other's company and have some good food, plus a visit from Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus to get us into the holiday spirit. Donations of kitchen, hygiene and baby products for Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes will be much appreciated.

Looking ahead to 2025, we will be having the election of new officers. Please realize that new leadership will have their own ways to get things done. They will do things in a manner that works for them within the guidelines set by the Supreme and State Lodges and bylaws. What that new board will need is our support, constructive ideas, and a willingness to help. **This is your organization. It is only as successful as you make it.** It does take time, energy, and work, but as members you have a vested interest in our Lodge. Please be there for your new leadership.

God Bless and Take Care
Fraternally yours,
Marjorie



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2024 Vincent Lombardi Lodge Calendar

November 7th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
November 16th, 6pm Papa Antolini Turkey Raffle
St Nicholas Society (206 Madison St, E. Rochester)

December 5th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
December 12th, 7pm: General Assembly Meeting
and Holiday Gathering



November 14 General Assembly Meeting is cancelled due to the close proximity to the Papa Antolini Turkey Raffle

PUCCINI'S

TOSCA

Saturday, Nov. 23rd
at 1:00 pm



Tosca is an opera by Giacomo Puccini about a love triangle, political intrigue, and murder. The setting is Rome in June 1800 during the Napoleonic wars and a time of political unrest. Puccini's richly romantic score uses a variety of techniques to create tension. Tosca is often recommended as a good opera for beginners because it is relatively short and has a coherent plot with universal themes of love, loyalty and courage.

Live from the Metropolitan Opera in HD

Papa Antolini Turkey Raffle

Saturday, November 16th

St. Nicholas Society Hall — East Rochester

RSVP by November 11th

6:00 pm with buffet served at 6:30 pm

See the flyer for more information and to make your reservation now.



Performance by the Roc City Singers directed by Judith Ranaletta



December General Assembly Meeting

December 12th at 7 pm

Please join us to celebrate the holiday season with a visit from St Nicholas and Mrs. Claus.

Refreshments are appreciated

Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes is our adopted holiday charity

From the desk of the Financial Secretary

NOTICE OF DUES RENEWAL

Notice for dues renewal will be sent via email about the second week of November. Be sure to check spam/junk mail if you have not received the email in your inbox. Dues will remain at \$65/ per person. Deadline for payment is December 31st. Our membership list must be reconciled with the New York State Grand Lodge, so it is imperative for us to receive your renewal payment by the end of the year. If there are any questions regarding credit card payments, please contact Sr. Marisa at marisaprze@gmail.com. Your continued support of the Vincent Lombardi Lodge is most appreciated.

Dues-paying members are offered a discount for lodge events. If a member attends all lodge events for the year, the discounted event pricing will make up the cost of membership for that year.

As a member, when paying for events, please use member pricing for yourself and non-member/guest pricing for all other attendees, including spouses, children, extended family and friends.

You can pay for dues and events and even make donations to the Vincent Lombardi Lodge by credit card or PayPal?

When utilizing PayPal, include a note indicating what the payment is for. Please include a **\$2 service charge**.

There are four ways to do this:

1. See Financial Secretary Marisa Przepiora at a meeting or event to utilize our credit card reader.
2. Log into your PayPal account, click the link to send money and send to:

vincentlombardilodge@gmail.com.

3. Ask a Council member to have an invoice with a link for payment sent to your email address.
4. Scan the QR code here.



Your continued support of the Vincent Lombardi Lodge is most appreciated.

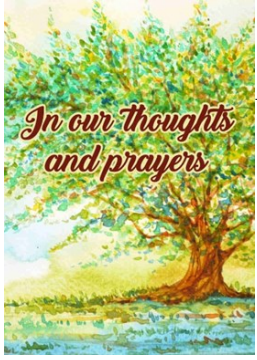
Join Zoom Meeting

This is the zoom link for General Assembly meetings each month thru April 2025.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85831885141?pwd=dU1QaGlmUGw2c0pOYm1IMk1J3bHgrQT09>



Whether in person or by Zoom, attend meetings and be a more informed and active member of the lodge.



Sandy Meleca
Patty and Gordie Rask
Dawn DiGennaro's wife
Vince Giannantonio's sister
Ron Santoli
Jim and Peg Vacanti

And all of our members who
have suffered recently with
illness
or loss of a loved one.

November Birthdays

11/1 Joseph Valentino
11/2 James Bruno
11/8 Joseph Polizzi
11/10 Philomena Giambrone
11/17 Patty Johns



Congratulations

Two of our Lodge members were recently honored
at this Year's Columbus Day Luncheon:
(left) **Rick Antelli** – Outstanding Service Community Award
(right) **Louis DeCarolis** – Outstanding Citizen Award



Seeking New Council Members



Take a seat at the table

Our elected council keeps the Vincent Lombardi Lodge running and the organization could not function without them. Many of our members have served a number of years in various capacities and we appreciate all their efforts.

There is also a special camaraderie that comes with being on the lodge council and getting to know the other members

President

The President is the highest-ranking officer and the leader of the Local Lodge

Duties of the President:

- * Calls and presides over all of the meetings of the council and assembly.
- * Sees that the laws of the Local Lodge are observed and the deliberations of the council and the assembly are carried out.
- * Sees that the laws of the Order are respected and observed, and the orders of the Supreme Lodge and of the Grand Lodge are obeyed.
- * Controls the affairs of the Local Lodge and supervises the performance of duties by the other officers of the Council.
- * Signs the minutes of the meetings of the assembly and all orders of payment, checks, correspondence and all documents which invest the responsibility of the Local Lodge.
- * Unless the laws of the Local Lodge provide otherwise, the President appoints all committees of the Local Lodge, of which the President is an ex-officio member.
- * Refrains from making proposals at the meetings of the assembly; participates in discussions only to clarify the issues presented, and votes only in the case of a tie.
- * After hearing the opinion of the Orator, the President rules upon controversies involving the application of the laws. The member who disagrees with the ruling and the interpretation of the president shall appeal within 10 days to the State President, in case the Local Lodge is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, and to the National President, in case the Local Lodge is under the direct jurisdiction of the Supreme Lodge.
- * When disorder arises in the meeting of the assembly or of the Council, the President may silence or censure the member or members causing such disorder. If such member or members persist in causing disorder, the President may fine, silence, or expel the member or members from the hall or suspend the meeting.
- * May appoint a chaplain whose primary duties shall be to conduct, whenever practicable, all religious exercises of the Local Lodge. The Chaplain shall also perform such other duties relating to the office, as shall be assigned to the office from time to time by the President.

Please thoughtfully consider running for office in our 2025 elections.



2024 Past Honoree Donations

This year these donations will provide three Past Honoree scholarships to deserving students.

Our sincere appreciation to past honorees for their donations which help our graduating seniors to continue their education.

Angels of Mercy
The Archetko Family, Otto Tomotto's
Hon. Victoria Argento
Joseph Capogreco
John Colaruotolo, Anco Builders
Mary Jo Colligan
Dr. Richard Constantino
Paul and Annette DeCarolis
Catherine DiNicola
Faber Builders
The Fedele Family
Jennie Gugino
Tom and Sandy Meleca
Elizabeth Osta
Dr. Ralph Pennino
Marisa Przepiora
Dr. Vito Quatela
Gordon and Patricia Rask
Dr. Joseph Rubé

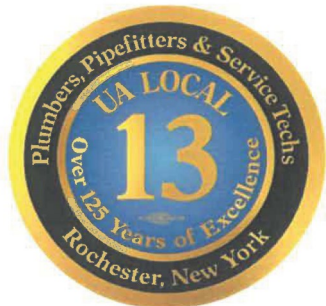
The generous support of past honorees and members is important to insure that our scholarship program will continue.

Thank you to our generous program sponsors!

Gold: *UA Local 13 Plumbers, Pipefitters and Service Techs*

Bronze: *Fiorvanti Florist, OSDIA Progresso Lodge*

We Salute Labor's Achievements!



Thank
you

UA Local #13 Plumbers, Pipefitters & Service Techs
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585-338-2360

www.ualocal13.org

Warmest Wishes

to the

Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270

From your brothers and sisters at

The Progresso Lodge #1047

Josephine Federico, President

Carmine Federico, Bene Emeritus



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FTD

TELEFLORA



Woman of the Year Joëlle Carota, Ph.D.

Our Woman of the Year, Joelle Carota will be returning to the Frank DiMino Casa Italiana at Nazareth University after her maternity leave. You can join her at the Casa if you sign up for classes, be a part of the Oral History Project, or attend the Italian Film Series with dinner following the movie.

Born and raised in Italy, Joëlle Carota is Director of the Frank DiMino Casa Italiana and Visiting Assistant Professor of Italian at Nazareth University. Previously, she has taught and conducted research at various universities in New York State. Her research is focused on the outcomes of language contact in multilingual contexts. She dedicates her free time to giving back to the community: she is currently the secretary of the Italian Civic League as well as the administrative assistant of the Honorary Consulate of Italy in Rochester.

Joëlle first attended Nazareth University in 2012 as an exchange student from Pescara. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees at the University "G. d'Annunzio" of Chieti-Pescara. She returned to Rochester in 2015 and Nazareth working as an event coordinator and tutor. She earned a second master's degree and her doctorate at University of Buffalo while she taught Italian and Spanish. After receiving her advanced degree, she gained extensive experience in foreign language instruction-French, Italian, and Spanish-and was the language coordinator at SUNY Binghamton.

Joëlle is carrying on the legacy of her predecessor, Stella Calabrese, at the Casa Italiana which is known for its Italian language courses for both children and adults, monthly cooking class, and Wednesday night movies. She restarted the Italian American Oral History Project that began in 2015 as a pilot project. Her goal is to help keep alive the stories, traditions, and culture that can be so easily lost, but the information garnered can also be used by historians and linguists. She would like to see the Casa become a documentation center for the Italian community in Rochester. She also has been instrumental in helping to bring back the Italian Film Series begun by Tony Mangione. The films are currently shown at the Peace Theatre across from the Casa at the Nazareth University Arts Center.

Man of the Year Mark Barbero



Our Man of the Year, Mark Barbero, can be found at Debbie Supply located on Commercial Street in East Rochester. If you are looking for a tool or part not found in the big box stores, check with him.

Debbie Supply opened its doors in 1957. In June 2024, 67 years later, the business received a special honor. Located on Commercial Street in East Rochester, it has been designated as a historic New York business. Mark Barbero, after earning his business degree, took over ownership from his father, Frank Barbero. His father and two uncles, Doc and Frank started the business. Mark will tell you that his Uncle Doc, a plumber, wanted to buy a toilet flapper, and after having difficulty locating one decided to open their own shop. The Barbero family were among several Italian immigrants to East Rochester. They worked in car shops, the piano shops, paper mills, and built refrigerated rail cars.

Although the original owners are deceased now, the store and its community are Mark's flesh and blood and he spends from 8 am until 8 pm on most days running the store. Having endured competition from big box stores, his focus is still about his customers. The founders of Debbie Supply were sons of some of the first Italian immigrants. Mark learned from his parents to work hard and persevere. But above all, he learned that people matter.

About the store name: his father and uncles wanted a one-word, catchy name like Kodak or Xerox. Mark's cousin was born the same year the store opened. Her name was Debbie, and so it became the name of the store. Looking for some obscure part or tool? It can probably be found at Debbie's. This is what keeps Mark going—being able to hand someone a part that cannot be found anywhere else and he is always willing to go the extra mile.

Debbie Supply is also known for giving back to the community and for making a difference. There is a kitchen located in the back of the store where they prepare weekly meals for employees, and host an annual holiday party with a large Italian buffet. They support schools and other local organizations with not just money, but also space and supplies for fundraising efforts.



Lifetime Achievement Award Elaine Spaul

Elaine is committed to finding shelter, housing, and crisis assistance, as well as ensuring school-based and youth development services. There are many children in the Rochester area who need Elaine as an advocate.

Elaine Gallina Spaul is an educator, a lawyer, a Fulbright scholar, an elected official, a speaker, an author and a consultant, but most of all, she is a youth advocate and a determined social activist and innovator. Elaine earned an undergraduate degree in English Literature and a master's degree from George Washington University. She received her doctoral degree in Philosophy of Education and graduated magna cum laude with a Juris Doctor from SUNY Buffalo. In 2007, Dr. Spaul was elected to the Rochester City Council as a district representative and served in that role for 12 years.

She joined The Center for Youth as Executive Director in 2000. Under her innovative leadership and through her determined efforts, The Center has reached more than 30,000 young people each year in schools, in residential shelters, on the street, and in recreation and community centers. Most noticeably over the past 15 years, Elaine has focused her efforts on creating alternative paths to education for those for whom traditional education has not been successful, as well as expanding the residential sites to serve youth who are facing homelessness and trauma. Dr. Spaul embraces the vision of the teenagers who founded The Center 52 years ago as the dreams of those original youth continue to drive the mission which boldly removes barriers and offers opportunities in a racially and socially just environment.

Dr. Spaul has been the grateful recipient of many community awards including the Rotary Service above self-award in 2023 and the Willow Restore the Hope award for her advocacy for victims of domestic violence in 2019. She was also named a Woman of Distinction by the Rochester Business Journal. In 2016, she was the recipient of the prestigious Athena Award, the leadership award conferred by the Women's Council of the Rochester Chamber of Commerce.

The community has been generous to Elaine with its honors and awards including the Teen Empowerment Advocate of the Year Award, the Jennifer Koon Peace and Justice award from St. John Fisher College, the Humanitarian of the Year award from the Monroe County Bar Association, awarded the Executive Leadership Award from the National Network 4 Youth for her advocacy for homeless youth, the Monroe County Youth Advocate of the Year, the Italian American Educator of the Year, the Youth Services Quality Council Service Provider of the Year as well as a Woman of Influence Award given by the Girl Scouts of Genesee Valley.

She finds great satisfaction supporting young women in their dreams. Her greatest joys include her 3 grandchildren Gemma Rose, Bodie, and Cooper Lynn.

Our Family of the Year— The Albano Family



Massimo and Fausto and their families work in their restaurants, taking reservations and making the rounds with their customers at Lemoncello's on Commercial Street in East Rochester, and Prosecco's on Rt 332 in Farmington. Try one of them if you are looking for a great place for dinner or just a glass of wine.

Massimo was born in the United States while his parents were visiting his uncle on vacation in Rochester, but he grew up in Vaglio, a town in the Basilicata Region in Southern Italy. The family returned to Rochester to be close to family who lived in the area and worked masonry and construction. Italian traditions focus on family and food, and the Albano Brothers wanted to share this in the community where they lived.

Their goal was to create a restaurant that welcomes everyone and offers that warm Mediterranean embrace. Massimo had worked different jobs, but something was always missing. He kept going back to his dream of owning a restaurant, and he wanted something that would remind him of the sights and sounds and smells of growing up in Italy. This was the atmosphere he wanted to replicate for his customers.

When a building on Commercial Street in East Rochester became available the brothers jumped at the chance to make their dream a reality. They were methodical and created a 10 year plan, which they managed to stick to. The building was perfect for what they wanted: high ceilings, exposed wooden beams, and masonry that was inspired by the Italian countryside. The terra cotta tiles and ironwork both inside and on the outdoor patio reflect their heritage. Customers feel like they have been transported to Italy even for just a short period of time.

Lemoncello's

137 W. Commercial St., East Rochester.

The Atmosphere: Boutique style Italian



The Albano's also own Taylors Bar and Lounge on Commercial Street in East Rochester.

Come for the food. Stay for the music, wine and dessert.



The Bookshelf

This Month's Selection is taken from *Saints Stories for all Ages: St. Frances Xavier Cabrini*

Mother Cabrini's unwavering faith fueled her work in helping others, underscoring the importance of faith in driving positive change and inspiring others.

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini's feast day is celebrated November 13. Mother Cabrini, as she's commonly called, spent her whole life traveling. She hardly ever stopped, and travel was a lot harder in her day than it is in ours.

There wasn't much in Mother Cabrini's early life to point to such a busy grown-up life. She was born in Italy and had ten brothers and sisters. Her parents were farmers, and their farmland wasn't too far from the Po river. Little Frances could look down into the valley and watch the river make its way to the sea.

When Frances was twenty years old she left the farm and started working as a teacher. During this time, Frances grew in faith and maturity. She took religious vows as a sister, worked hard to save a struggling orphanage, and decided to start her own religious order.

By the late 1880s, Mother Cabrini became interested in a new problem. Hundreds of thousands of Italians moved to America and were seeking a way out of poverty in their new land. Very few of these immigrants were successful right away. Most lived in worse poverty than they'd endured back in Italy. They lived in crowded and dirty apartments and were unable to find work. Sad stories traveled back to the home country, right to Mother Cabrini. So Mother Cabrini set out on the long trip to America.

Over the next thirty-seven years, Mother Cabrini was constantly on the move, starting schools, orphanages, and hospitals for Italian immigrants, and others in need. In the first few years she traveled between New York, Nicaragua, and New Orleans. After having a dream in which she saw Mary tending to the sick lying in hospital beds, Mother Cabrini started Columbus Hospital in New York City.

After she founded the hospital, Mother Cabrini made trips back to Italy to organize more nuns for work in America. Between these trips, she and some sisters headed south to Argentina. The sisters went by way of Panama and then Lima, Peru. They made the journey by boat, train, mule, and on foot.

Back in the United States, Mother Cabrini traveled constantly taking her sisters to Chicago, Seattle, and Denver. It was in Chicago that Mother Cabrini, at the age of sixty-seven, passed away. She'd begun her work with just a handful of sisters. By the time she died, fifty houses of sisters were teaching, caring for orphans, and running hospitals. Her order had grown to almost a thousand sisters.



In 1946 she was canonized—the first American citizen to become a saint.

In 1950 Pope Pius XII named her "Patroness of Immigrants."

Cabrini

On International Women’s Day, March 8, 2024, the world had the opportunity to learn more about the life and legacy of Mother Frances Cabrini when the feature-length film *Cabrini* opened in theaters across the country.

From coast to coast, the shrines to St. Frances Xavier Cabrini testify to the profound love, impact and even miracles this Italian immigrant and U.S. citizen-saint known as ‘Mother Cabrini’ worked in the lives of countless Americans.



St. Frances Xavier Cabrini’s life began in northern Italy in 1850. As a young girl, Francesca Cabrini was enthralled by stories of missionaries. She loved playing by a river near her uncle’s house, filling paper boats with flowers – her “missionaries” — and sending them off to China.

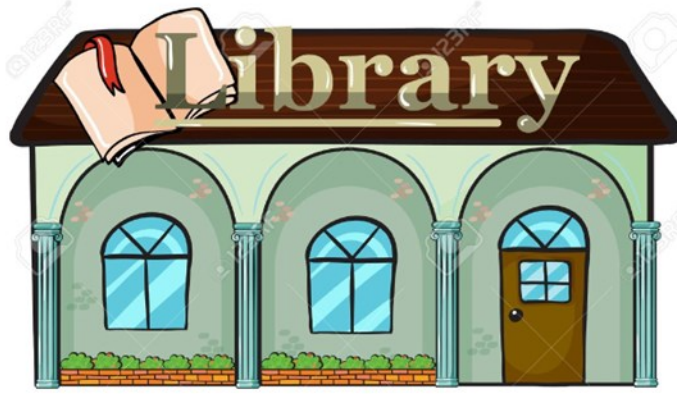
In the early years, the Missionary Sisters worked in northern Italy. But tiny Mother Cabrini – who stood barely 5 feet tall — was eager to spread the love of Jesus around the world. She longed to go to China, but then a different opportunity presented itself. In 1888 Mother Cabrini was approached by Bishop Giovanni Scalabrini, who was deeply concerned about Italians who had emigrated to the Americas. In a single decade, nearly a million had fled poverty in southern Italy. Few had much education, and few possessed skills that allowed them to get good jobs. Instead of finding the better life they envisioned, in the U.S. they faced deep prejudice, poor wages, a system of contract labor, and bad housing. In those days the U.S. was considered mission territory. There were few priests in the United States who spoke Italian. At the Bishop’s request Mother Cabrini came to New York City to serve the struggling immigrants, to bring them hope and faith. Frances Cabrini immigrated to the United States at age 38 and became a citizen in 1909 at the age of 59.

Mother Cabrini, who had a deathly fear of water and drowning, spent nearly 30 years traveling back and forth across the Atlantic Ocean as well as around the United States setting up orphanages, hospitals, convents, and schools for the often-marginalized Italian immigrants. Renowned as a woman of deep faith, Mother Cabrini was also a shrewd businesswoman. Her energy was fueled by an intense focus on serving Jesus in whatever he asked of her. To relate to the Italian immigrants in New York, the orphans of Nicaragua, the workers of Denver, and the highest echelons of English society on the steamers required a certain finesse that was characteristic of her approach. She instructed, *“Zeal is a great charity but only when it is tempered with great, kind and gentle love like that of the heart of Jesus.”*

Her primary aim was the salvation of souls, whom she loved with an inspired intensity on par with that of her patron, St. Francis Xavier. While the humanitarian aspect of Mother’s work was immensely impactful, it was secondary to her spiritual mission: the *eternal* good of the people she served.

*When people watch Cabrini, I want them to be inspired by her life, by her zeal and passion for the mission of Jesus. I want them to go away and say, “Now what can I do in my little corner of the world to make this a better place for others?” I’d want them to get out of their own self, and give to others.*¹

¹An interview with Sister Pietrina Raccuglia, President of the Cabrini Mission Foundation.



East Rochester Public Library Celebrates Italian Heritage Month

Displayed on the second floor are artifacts and pieces from across Italy. Please stop in and take a look. Thank you to Nancy and Joe Rubé for sharing them with us.



Irondequoit Public Library Receives Donation of Peter Maddalena's Books

Peter Maddalena was a member of the Vincent Lombardi Lodge for many years and was proud to be an Italian American.



He served his country during the Korean War and had a deep abiding interest in World War II as well. He collected hundreds of books on both conflicts, and when he passed recently, his collections of books were donated to the Irondequoit Public Library.

He donated his time with the local Honor Flight and Eastridge Kiwanis Club and enjoyed knitting winter hats for veterans





Veterans Day is a day to honor the patriotism, love of country, and service of America's veterans. The date preserves the historical significance of the armistice on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 that ended the fighting in World War I. The holiday was originally called Armistice Day, but was renamed Veterans Day in 1954

Message to our Veterans

Thank you is never enough.

With much gratitude and appreciation for your service during both war and peace.

*May God bless you
for keeping us safe and free.*



To all our Brothers and Sisters and their families.

Thanksgiving started out as a three-day autumn feast between the Plymouth colonists and the Native American Wampanoag people in 1621. This Thanksgiving will be the 403rd anniversary of that first celebration. It is as meaningful today as it was then. It is a time to reflect and give thanks for all that we have and to share with those less fortunate. It is a time for families and friends to enjoy time together.

*God Bless and a safe holiday,
Marjorie*

There is tremendous happiness in making others happy, despite our own situations.



**Shared grief is half the sorrow,
but happiness when shared is doubled.**

**If you want to feel rich,
count all the things you have that money can't buy.**

Today is a gift, that is why it is called 'The Present.'

OSDIA Vincent Lombardi Lodge
1248 Calkins Rd
Rochester NY 14623.

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