



The Roar of the Lion

Annette DeCarolis, *editor*
October 2024 Edition



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Happy Autumn! What a beautiful time of year! Autumn is harvest time, turning leaves to crimson red, golden yellow and bright orange, cooling temperatures, shorter days, and darkening nights. A research study and documentation in the Journal of Aging Research shows babies born during the autumn months are more likely to live to 100 than those born during the rest of the year. During the years 1880-1895 30% of US centenarians were born in the autumn months.

October has been designated Italian Heritage Month. All across the US, OSDIA lodges and Italian organizations will celebrate and acknowledge the accomplishments and successes of Italian immigrants and Italian-Americans. It was first celebrated in 1989 by proclamation of the president and congress. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Italians came to the United States seeking new opportunities and a better life. They were told, “the streets are paved with gold,” but they soon learned that it took hard work, perseverance, and determination to make those opportunities a reality. What they gave to the people of this country was a rich tapestry of traditions, customs, and values. We have contributed to every aspect of life: culinary and wine, music, science, literature, entertainment, sports, medicine, and art. It was President Benjamin Harrison who established a day in the name of Christopher Columbus on the 400th Anniversary of the explorer's maiden voyage to the New World as a gesture of reparation to the Italians. It was eighty years later in 1971 when Columbus Day became a federal holiday, which led to a Congressional and Presidential Proclamation of October as being Italian-American Heritage and Culture Month in 1989.

Thank you to Tony and Sharon Mangione for promoting the Italian Film Series. Please watch for information about future movies at Nazareth University.

The holidays are fast approaching, but our Lodge still has some great events coming up: Heritage Dinner on October 25th and the Papa Andolini's Turkey Raffle on November 16th. And don't forget to order pies for Thanksgiving.

A reminder, anyone who would like to serve on our council, please let Br. Vince Giannantonio or Br. Joe Rube` know.

“No one can whistle a symphony. It takes a whole orchestra to play it” - Luccock

God Bless and Take Care.

Fraternally yours,
Marjorie

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2024 Vincent Lombardi Lodge Calendar

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

October 25th, Time TBD: Heritage Dinner
Webster Golf Club (440 Salt Rd, Webster)

November 7th, 6:30pm: Council Meeting
November 14th, 7pm: GA Meeting Cancelled

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



Geneva Lodge \
1 Prospect St., Geneva

Bar is open at 5 pm
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday,
and Saturday

Bingo every Sunday at 6 pm, doors open at 4:30

Oct 9th Meat Brawl at 6 pm
meatball making/tasting

Oct 24th Documentary at 7pm
Preview of film in development of
Geneva Italian Immigrants

Oct 26th Halloween Party at 8pm
featuring Night Train; costume contest

Contact Peter Gillotte at 315-781-2242



* October 6th - Rochester Italian Heritage Celebration at The Public Market
- 11am to 4pm. for more info visit www.rocitalians.org

* October 14th—**ICL Columbus Day Luncheon*** 11:15 Flag Raising
Italian American Community Center, 150 Frank DiMino Way
Cost \$30 in advance, \$35 at the door.

*** Brother Rick Antelli is being honored with the Outstanding Community Service Award**
*** Brother Louis DeCarolis is being honored with the Outstanding Citizen Award**

- ◆ October 26th—1 to 3pm East Rochester Chamber of Commerce **2nd Annual Trunk of Treat**
East Rochester Techniplex Parking Lot
Need 30 participants to decorate their car and hand out treats (rain date Sunday, October 27th)
- ◆ October 26th—7 pm **Woman of the Year** St. Nicholas Society, East Rochester
Celebrates Rosanne Fabi

Papa Antolini Turkey Raffle

November 16th

St. Nicholas Society Hall

206 Madison St., East Rochester



Performance by the Roc City Singers directed by Judith Ranaletta

From the desk of the Financial Secretary



You may have noticed that our events now include member and non-member pricing. We are offering this discount to dues paying members of our lodge as a benefit of your membership.

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.

Did you know 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.



Join Zoom Meeting

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85831885141?pwd=dU1QaGlmUGw2c0pOYm1IMkJ3bHgrQT09>



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
Ron Santoli
Dawn DiGennaro's wife
Vince Giannantonio's sister
Jim and Peg Vacanti
Sam Mammano
Mary Rinere

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



October Birthdays

- 10/1 Ann Vazzana
- 10/2 Franca DiFilippo
- 10/3 Peter Pullano
- 10/11 Vince Giannantonio
- 10/14 Martin D'Ambrose
- 10/17 Thomas Ferraro Jr
- 10/21 Stacey Romeo
- 10/26 Annette DeCarolis



Tom Golisano, past honoree of the Vincent Lombardi Lodge, recently donated \$360M to 82 non-profit organizations in upstate New York. The money is in unrestricted grants and none of the recipients have to jump through hoops to receive the funding.



Nelson Mandela said, "We can change the world and make it a better place. It is in our hands to make a difference." Thank you Mr. Golisano and Sr. Diana for making a difference in the daily life of so many people.



Sr. Diana Dolce, Executive Director of Hope Hall, was the 2023 Woman of the Year Honoree for the Vincent Lombardi Lodge. Hope Hall was the recipient of a \$3M donation through the generosity of Tom Golisano. Congratulations to Sr. Diana, teachers, staff, students, and parents.

"I hope this unexpected, unrestricted funding helps them build on their successes and broaden their impact." - Tom Golisano



**WANTED:
Members to Serve
on the Council**

It is time to think about who will lead the Vincent Lombardi Lodge for the next two years. Leadership is the ability to influence and guide members of an organization or team. **The main goal of our leadership team, which is the council, is to provide direction and motivation in order to achieve collective objectives.** Serving on the council should be considered a privilege. Our council members appreciate that their impact on the Lodge and its doings is significant and can expand beyond its walls.

Br. Vince Giannantonio and Br. Joe Rube are cochairs of the Nominating Committee. Anyone interested in holding a position on council, please contact them. All terms are two years, 2025-2027, and each position can be held for two terms (four consecutive years).

Positions are: president, vice president orator, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, financial secretary, treasurer, five trustees, two master/mistress of ceremonies, sentinel, and five commissioners of arbitration.

Anyone who has been a member for at least one year can run for a position. Our social members are not able to hold an elected position in accordance with the bylaws.

Our Lodge can only remain an active part of OSDIA if we have officers to lead.

No member of the nominating committee is allowed to run for an elected office. Over the past few months, the positions have been defined and the responsibilities for the positions noted in our newsletters. Outgoing council members and former council members are here to help when needed, to guide and mentor.

It is the duty of the nominating committee to see that a full slate is presented to the members.

TIMELINE:

October: Formation of the Nomination Committee

December: The nominating committee will have completed their charge by December 15th and notify each potential candidate by Dec. 31st confirming the candidate is willing to run for office and be ready and able to perform the duties associated with that office.

January: Slate to be elected reported to the General Assembly

February: Elections will be held at the General Assembly Meeting

March: The newly elected officers and trustees will be installed at a separate event, not at the General Assembly Meeting.

PROCEDURE TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

All positions on the council are open, although some current council members are eligible to serve for another term. Current council members may seek another position and should follow the same process. No one serving on the nominating committee may run for a council position. Anyone wishing to be considered for a position should send a letter of intent to the nominating committee chair expressing the position to be considered along with their qualifications for that position. In the event, there is more than one candidate for an office, the nominating committee will make the decision on who will run on the slate presented to the General Assembly.

Seeking New Council Members



As you know, our elected council keeps the Vincent Lombardi Lodge running. From planning and execution of our events, to overseeing the financial welfare of the lodge, to handling the day to day items that come up, our council holds an important role and the organization could not function without them.

Take a seat at the table

There is also a special camaraderie that comes with being on the lodge council and getting to know the other members who are also giving their time for this job.



Treasurer

The Treasurer is custodian of the funds of the Local Lodge.

The Treasurer's duties are:

- To receive at the end of each meeting all the money collected by the Financial Secretary and to issue proper receipt therefor.
- To record in and keep up to date the Cash Book of the local lodge, in which record the Treasurer shall register monthly income and disbursements of the Local Lodge.
- Not later than three days after each meeting, to deposit in previously designated banks the funds received by the Treasurer in accounts opened in the name of the Local Lodge.
- To issue and sign checks upon the receipt of proper order of payment and consign them to the Financial Secretary for delivery to the payee thereof.
- To withdraw funds from savings accounts opened in the name of the Local Lodge; provided the withdrawal slip bears the signature of the President, of the Financial Secretary, and of at least one Trustee, in addition to the Treasurers; and provided further that the assembly of the Local Lodge may dispense with the signature of the Trustee when advisable.
- To carry out such orders which the Treasurer may receive, in matters pertaining to the office, from the President or from the highest ranking officers of the Order.

Many of our members have served a number of years in various capacities and we appreciate all their efforts. They will be the first to attest to the importance of bringing new ideas and energy to the work.

Please thoughtfully consider running for one of these positions in our 2025 elections.



Our Annual Pie Sale is back!

**Just in time for Thanksgiving,
or great for any holiday gathering or dessert!**

*This year you have the opportunity
to support four great causes with your pie purchase!*

1. **The Vincent Lombardi Lodge** earns dollars from every pie purchased. These dollars are used to support the cost of running our organization.
2. **Special Touch Bakery** will be our distributor. They are a non-profit organization whose primary mission is to provide training and employment to those with intellectual and developmental disabilities, which inspires lifelong success. They do everything from mixing to packing their pies. This is a business who cares about people and believes the world is truly a better place when we celebrate everyone's abilities and accomplishments. Those coming to Special Touch Bakery learn new skills, try new things, and find a greater purpose in life. Their belief **Purpose for All** provides them with the opportunity to make a difference in our world and to us by just giving them a chance.
3. **School of the Holy Childhood** will benefit from the proceeds of the pies purchased through Special Touch Bakery. School of the Holy Childhood is a nonsectarian, non-profit agency serving children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities for maximum independence and integration into the community.
4. **Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes** is accepting pies to be distributed to domestic violence victims and their children, including those residing at their newly opened domestic violence shelter. You can purchase pies to be donated directly to this cause, and help make the holidays special for those who truly need it. You do nothing except purchase the pie. Sister Marisa Przepiora will pick up the donated pies and deliver them to clients of Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes, Inc, including to victims residing in their emergency domestic violence shelter.

Order Deadline is Friday, November 1st

Please mail order forms and payment with total number of each pie to be ordered to:

Marisa Przepiora at 4552 Wildflower Dr., Canandaigua, NY 14424.

Payment can be in the form of cash, check, or QR Code.

Checks should be made out to the Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270

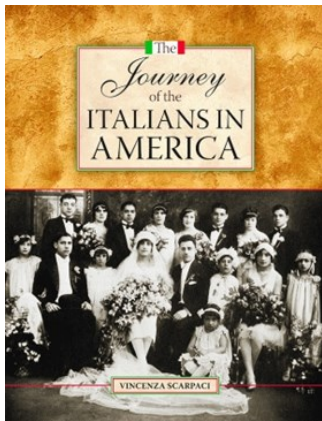
The Bookshelf

This Month's Selection is
Journey of the Italins in America by Vincenza Scarpaci



**In observance of October as Italian Heritage Month,
it is fitting to reflect on Italians coming to America.**

**The journey has been marked by several distinct waves of immigration,
significant contributions to American culture, and a lasting impact on the nation.**



In this book the author takes a photographic approach towards unraveling the history and legacy of Italians and their presence in America. Italians have influenced American life since the beginning of the new Republic. Subsequently, millions of Italians have immigrated to the United States, bringing with them a distinct set of beliefs, traditions, and customs, which have been preserved and passed down through the generations.

Scarpaci knows that despite the stereotypes of the Italian city kid, immigrants went anywhere there was work. That's why you'll find great bakeries, sausage shops, mutual aid societies, restaurants and more -- all bearing Italian names in small-towns all across our great land.

Examining more than four hundred unique photographs of Italian families, settlements, businesses, and celebrities, Scarpaci celebrates the ways in which this ethnic group has influenced many aspects of American life, including arts, agriculture, industry, religion, cuisine, sports, and politics. Beginning in the late 1870s, this work illustrates how the immigrants and their descendants faced the hardships, disappointments, achievements, and successes of this ongoing experience.

With photographs from settings as diverse as a canning factory in Salerno to an Italian family's kitchen garden in Kellogg, Idaho, to Italians living in the French Quarter in New Orleans, Louisiana, *The Journey of the Italians in America* traces the evolution of the Italian immigrant of the 1800s into today's statesman, scholar, movie star, Supreme Court justice, or businessman. As much a history of Italian influence on America, this work is also a history of American influence on Italians, as Scarpaci makes plain through evaluating the differences among generations of Italian Americans. An enduring study of ethnicity in America, this chronicle is a timely contribution to the discourse on immigration in the United States and will certainly be appreciated and enjoyed by all Americans.

Brooklyn native Vincenza Scarpaci is a US immigration historian with a Ph.D. in history from Rutgers University. She has worked as a consultant, grant writer and volunteer coordinator in addition to her considerable teaching experience at the university level.



Christopher Columbus

Columbus was a visionary who changed the world:
opened the door to the Western Hemisphere,
inspired explorers to follow him,
led to the colonization of the New World,
and provided a means for cultural exchanges
which affects every country on the planet.



With all the controversy surrounding Christopher Columbus, let's remember some of the important things he gave to society. He was a self educated man and was knowledgeable in geography, astronomy, and history, as well as learning Latin, Portuguese, and Castilian. His plan was to seek a western passage to the East Indies. His expeditions began an era of exploration, conquest, and colonization that lasted for centuries. During this time the new world and old world exchanged plants, animals, precious metals, culture, human populations, technology, diseases, and ideas that made significant changes to both spheres.

Reasons to Celebrate Columbus:

The trans-Atlantic route laid the foundation for future navigation, beginning the Age of Exploration. Columbus, who had studied mapmaking in Portugal at 14, created maps used by later explorers. The Atlantic Ocean route established in the 15th century continues to be used by sailors today.

Columbus Day recognizes the achievements of the Renaissance period and the first settlement of a European community in the New World. It celebrates the beginning of a cultural change between the continents.

The Age of Discovery brought contributions in music, art, science, medicine, philosophy and religious principles which helped to shape our country.

He brought influences from Greek democracy, Roman law, Judeo-Christian ethics and the tenant all men are created equal.

**Recorded history of the Western World begins with Columbus' discovery.
There was no written history prior to 1492.**



The Pledge of Allegiance was written in 1892 in honor of the 400th Anniversary of Columbus' first voyage. President Benjamin Harrison declared Columbus Day a legal holiday that same year. In 1937, President Franklin D. Roosevelt made Columbus Day a federal holiday. In 1971 Congress passed a law declaring the second Monday in October a federal holiday in all 50 states.



National Commission for Social Justice

Report of Meeting with Native American Guardian's Association "United Together"

Honoring their motto "Educate, Not Eradicate", the Native American Guardian's Association stands proudly with the **Italian American community**, choosing to honor their great visionary, Christopher Columbus, an "explorer" not a conqueror. He was not interested in conquest; but to discover for the first time a westerly sea route to the far east, thereby advancing trade in the world.

Columbus ventured into the totally unknown, sailing out to sea, an "explorer" "putting his life on the line to find out the "truth" and to explore sea trade routes to China, India, and the gold spice islands of Asia only to land in the Caribbean Islands.

**The Native American Guardian's Association
stands proudly with
the Italian American community
to honor Christopher Columbus,
an "explorer" not a conqueror.**

Revisionists would have us believe that Columbus was the "beginning of the end" for American Indians as he was cited for the mistreatment and exploitation of American Indian people. These revisionists create the clash between the Italians and the American Indians and have sought to create [Indigenous] Peoples' Day in place of Columbus Day, setting

two minority groups against one another. When, in fact, the Italian and the American Indian have lived through atrocities committed against them in the "true" American History and ethnocentrism applied against both groups... collectively.

With the concept of "Educate, not Eradicate" NAGA stands united with Italian Americans choosing to honor their great visionary from the past. NAGA believes in true factual history (the good, the bad, and the ugly) and not in opinion based on the mood of the landscape or distorted/falsehoods promoted through racial biases.

As small-minded racists attempt to destroy what honorable visionaries create humanity itself hangs in the balance. **Division, hate, and destruction accomplished through disinformation are the only tool of operation for those seeking total dominance.**

**NAGA takes a stand against cancel culture
from destroying histories and culture tied to the United States of America.**

This statement does not speak for all Native Americans in the United States only the 80 to 90% who understand our culture is getting canceled out by all our Indian names and images disappearing.

NAGA President/Eunice Davidson

Native American Guardian Association is a 501 C3 nonprofit organization advocating for increased education about Native Americans specially, in public educational institutions and greater recognition of Native American heritage through the high-profile venues of Sports and all public platforms.



La Famiglia

The family is everything to Italians and intrinsic to the Italian way of life. Italian families “stick together like glue” even if it means relatives are a constant presence in your life. The family is the building block of society. This ideology mystifies most other cultures since many young people leave the family “nest” at an early age. Others see our culture when attending huge weddings, religious celebrations, birthdays, and even funerals when family members come by the dozen. This is our “reality,” who we are. There is a belief in certain values that having family is like an investment for the future, a safety net in hard times.

Halloween

Halloween is a celebration observed in many countries on 31 October, the eve of the Western Christian feast of All Hallows' Day. In Italy it is not an official holiday, but it is a fun festive event just before the more serious All Saints and All Souls Days at the start of November.

Borgo a Mozzano, the Parade of Ghosts, takes place in Tuscany. Spooky stories and mysteries can be heard as you walk the old town center.

In the small village of Serra San Bruno, children carve pumpkins into skulls. They then take them around to houses and businesses asking for payment to protect the property from evil spirits. Known as Cocalu di muortu, it dates back hundreds of years. Villagers are happy to support the children.



One day a farmer’s donkey fell down a well. The animal cried piteously for hours as the farmer tried to figure out what to do. Finally, he decided the animal was old, and the well needed to be covered up anyway; it just wasn’t worth it to retrieve the donkey. He invited all his neighbors over to help him. They all grabbed a shovel and began to shovel dirt into the well. At first, the donkey realized what was happening and cried horribly. Then, to everyone’s amazement he quieted down. A few shovel loads later the farmer finally looked down the well. He was astonished at what he saw. With each shovel of dirt that hit his back, the donkey would shake it off and take a step up. As the farmer’s neighbors continued to shovel dirt on top of the animal, he would shake it off and take a step up. Pretty soon, everyone was amazed as the donkey stepped up over the edge of the well and happily trotted off.

Life is going to shovel dirt on you, all kinds of dirt. The trick is to shake it off, take a step up and never giving up. **Each of our troubles is a steppingstone. Shake it off and take a step up.**

Remember the five simple rules to be happy:

- Free your heart from hatred—forgive
- Free your mind from worries—most never happen
- Live simply and appreciate what you have
- Give more
- Expect less

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