



## ROCHESTER VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE #2270, INC.

71 Cohasset Drive  
Rochester, New York 14618

### OFFICERS

#### President

Joseph A. Rubé, M.D.

#### First Vice-President

Jennie Gugino

#### Second Vice-President

Antonio Palucci

#### Recording Secretary

Jennifer Rubé

#### Corresponding Secretary

Ann Vazzana

#### Financial Secretary

Nancy Rubé

#### Treasurer

Susan Berta

#### Orator

Louis Giambra

#### Mistress of Ceremony

Mary Delman

Shirley Sculli

#### Sentinel

Russell Gugino

#### Trustees

Louis DeCarolis

Patricia Galante

Joseph Galante

Angela Parise

Mary Ricci

#### Immediate Past President

Joseph A. Vazzana

#### Chaplain

Emma Ferlise

#### District VIII State Trustee

Joseph M. Berta

#### Bene Emeritus

Louis Giambra

#### Chaplain Emeritus

Sister Carole Proia

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

February 2011

With the month of February upon us, the winter season is flexing its muscle and encouraging many to stay indoors. Our Lodge is in a relatively quiet mode so I will try to keep this letter brief.

At the January General Assembly meeting, the Nominating Committee under Sister Jen Gugino's chairmanship presented the committee's slate of officers and delegates and there being no opposition from the floor, all were elected as presented. The elected are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. My congratulations to the committee for a job well done and to all those elected. Also my thanks go to all those who have chosen not to continue on the board. You have all worked very hard, most for many years, to keep our lodge a well functioning organization and financially solvent. As President, I have no doubt that the new Board will continue this trend, will work together to serve you, the membership, in such a way that our lodge will be seen as one of the strongest Italian-American organizations in our community and will gain in membership. Please reserve the date of March 20<sup>th</sup> for our brunch at Midvale Country Club where we will honor and thank the outgoing board and induct the newly elected. We would like to see as many members attend along with family and friends.

Bringing in new members to our lodge will continue to be a priority as well as retention of our current membership. We will look into more advertising where we would be able to receive some financial help from the Grand Lodge. I believe that our best advertising comes from our members who talk it up at social events, at our places of work, among our own families, and by bringing family and friends to our events. Our members who participate in running our events as well as doing the work of the lodge should get more recognition and thanks for their activity but also should all the membership for paying their dues to support our charities as well as attending our social events. In today's economy and busy schedules everyone must "prioritize" so we must do whatever it takes to keep our lodge high on the priority list.

NEXT PAGE >>

One of our strengths has been our commitment to charitable giving through fundraisers and contributions to people in need. Nationally, the Sons of Italy has signified Autism as one of its priorities and we are fortunate to have a member of our Lodge, Brother Sal Cutaia, who has accepted the role as Chair and is planning some fundraisers for this very worthy cause. If you would like to help, please contact him.

My personal thanks to all who sent congrats on my retirement – much appreciated - already I feel the decrease in stress and a reinvigoration for my other loves, especially those related to my proud Italian heritage.

In closing, my thoughts and prayers go out to our members who have been ill or who have lost a loved one. I've been given permission by Sister MaryAnn to let you know that her surgery went well. She is now home recuperating in good spirits and thanks all of you for cards, calls, and prayers. Remember also in your thoughts and prayers those who have served or are currently serving our Country.

Fraternally yours,

Dr. Joe Rubé, President



#### The Member Who Never Came Back

It amuses me to think that your organization spends so much time looking for new members when I was there all the time. Do you remember me? I am the one who was asked to join. I paid my dues and then I was asked to be a loyal and faithful member.

I am the one who came to every meeting, but nobody paid any attention to me. I tried several times to be friendly, but everyone seemed to have his or her friends to talk to and sit with. I sat down among some unfamiliar faces several times, but they didn't pay much attention to me.

Finally, because of illness, I missed a meeting. The next month no one asked me where I had been. I guess it didn't matter much whether I was there or not. On the next meeting date, I decided to stay home and watch a good television program. When I attended the next meeting, no one asked me where I was the month before.

You might say that I am a good person, a good worker and I love my community. You know who else I am? *I am the member who never came back!*

*Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Vincent Lombardi Lodge,*

*I would like to thank all of you for the generosity you showed during the clothing drive this winter. You provided for many children and their families that attend our school. Many of our families needed help this year and so many were helped with your donations.*

*I would especially like to thank Sister Jennifer Rubé who coordinated the drive and made sure that the delivery was made to our building. On behalf of all of the children and families in our school community, thank you and God Bless all of you.*



*Sincerely,*

*Sister Sandra Meleca*



## *"The Roar of the Lion"*

Jennifer Rubé, editor  
February 2011

### 2011 ELECTIONS

#### Welcome to our new incoming board:

- **President:** Dr. Joseph Rubé
- **Vice President:** Jennifer Rubé
- **Recording Secretary:** Bonnie Cottone
- **Corresponding Secretary:** Ann Vazzana\*
- **Financial Secretary:** Susan Berta
- **Treasurer:** Nancy Rubé
- **Orator:** Louis DeCarolis
- **Mistress of Ceremony:** Patricia Galante
- **Mistress of Ceremony:** Shirley Sculli
- **Sentinel:** Thomas Vazzana
- **Trustee:** Sal Cutaia
- **Trustee:** Linda Agnello
- **Trustee:** Mary Delman
- **Trustee:** Antonio Palucci
- **Trustee:** Joseph Galante

\* This has been changed since the last newsletter due to a misunderstanding in titles.

- **State Convention Delegates:**  
Jennifer Rubé, Susan Berta, Ann Vazzana

#### Our thanks to the outgoing board:

- **President:** Dr. Joseph Rubé
- **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:** Jen Gugino
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** Antonio Palucci
- **Recording Secretary:** Jennifer Rubé
- **Corresponding Secretary:** Ann Vazzana
- **Financial Secretary:** Nancy Rubé
- **Treasurer:** Susan Berta
- **Orator:** Louis Giambra
- **Mistress of Ceremony:** Mary Delman
- **Mistress of Ceremony:** Shirley Sculli
- **Sentinel:** Dr Russel Gugino
- **Trustee:** Mary Ricci
- **Trustee:** Angela Parise
- **Trustee:** Louis DeCarolis
- **Trustee:** Patricia Galante
- **Trustee:** Joseph Galante
- **Chaplain:** Emma Ferlise

- **State Convention Delegates:**  
Jennifer Rubé, Susan Berta, Patricia Galante

### ITALIAN vs AMERICAN ELECTIONS INFORMATION

In the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition 2010 of the magazine PRIMO, the editor's notes titled AN ITALIAN'S GUIDE TO CONGRESS gives a very nice comparison between the Congress of the US and Capitol Building and how they were based on the history and ideals of Italy a "model by which to build a great nation".

The Capitol building was inspired by ancient Rome's Capitoline Hill the interior of which was decorated by Italians and Italian Americans, The main contributors being Constantino Brumidi, Filippo Costaggini, Enrico Causici to name a few. Two of Brumidi's works are "Apotheosis of George Washington," a tribute to the father of our country and a 19 paneled work depicting American history from Columbus' landing and ending in the birth of aviation (required two other artists to finish). The editor then comments on the structure of Congress and how in the recent elections the House of Representatives now has 28 Italian Americans and there are 6 Italian American Senators. Described is how the Congress functions, a system modeled after ancient Rome's republic. It is observed that unlike Jewish, African, and Irish Americans, Italian Americans are not wed to a single political party or cause – of the 28 Italian American congressmen there are 15 Republicans and 13 Democrats.  
~JAR

# VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- **February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011** – IASC Lunch (info: 464-9160)
- **February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011** – 7:00PM - OSIA General Assembly Meeting – Casa Italiana (info Jennifer: 381-5540)
- **February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011** – Valentine Dinner Dance at the IACC (info: 594-8882)
- **February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011** – 12noon - IACC Lunch (info: 594-8882)
- **February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011** – IASC Lunch (info: 464-9160)
- **March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011** – 12noon - IACC Lunch (info: 594-8882)
- **March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011** – 7:00PM – OSIA Board Meeting at **PRESIDENT JOE'S HOUSE** (info: Jennifer 381-5540)
- **March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011** – IASC Lunch (info: 464-9160)
- **March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011** – **NO GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING!**
- **March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011** – 12noon - IACC Lunch (info: 594-8882)
- **March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011** – 11:00am - Brunch and Installation ceremony for new board members - Midvale Country Club (info: Jennifer 381-5540, Susan 334-6641)
- **March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011** – IASC Lunch (info: 464-9160)
- **March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011** – 12noon - IACC Lunch (info: 594-8882)
- **April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011** – Bus Trip to Fallsview Casino with Peter Maddalena (info: Peter 737-3385 or cruisePETE@aol.com)
- **May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011** – Traditional Sicilian Sunday Dinner with Chef Rosita – more info in March and April Newsletters
- **July 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011** – Festa Italiana at the IACC (more info to follow)
- **October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011** – Christopher Columbus Dinner Dance at Midvale Country Club (more info to follow)

## SUNSHINE CORNER

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Sister MaryAnn Koons who is recovering from major surgery.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Brother Peter Maddelena who has undergone recent surgery.

Our thoughts and prayers for Sister Mary Ricci who has been under the weather recently.

Our thoughts and prayers for Sister Eunice who hasn't been feeling well lately.

Please keep our older members in mind during these cold Winter days. Many are housebound in this weather and could use a phonecall to cheer them up.

If you know of any lodge members who are ill or could use cheering up, please let Corresponding Secretary, Sister Ann Vazzana know at 224-8907.

## ASSEMBLY MEETINGS

The next general assembly meeting will be held on Thursday February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at the Casa Italiana located on the Nazareth College Campus at 4245 East Avenue. The college is located about half a mile from the Village of Pittsford on Route 96/East Avenue. Enter the campus at the entrance with the traffic light (South Campus Drive). Turn immediately into Parking Lot A on the right as you enter the campus. On the right you will note the Casa Hispana building and then the Casa Italiana building. Take the lower walk to the right of the building which leads directly to the meeting room. The meeting will begin at 7:00PM sharp and everyone is welcome. Please Note: the meeting room is handicapped accessible.

# VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

## NEW MEMBERS

This month we are happy to welcome our newest member, Mary Joyce D'Aurizio. She is scheduled to be initiated into the lodge at the February General Assembly Meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup>.

We are always looking for new members to bring into our lodge. Think about family, friends and co-workers who might enjoy joining our group and promoting our Italian heritage.

## REFRESHMENTS

We are looking for volunteers to bring refreshments to our General Assembly meetings. You're welcome to partner up with another member if you want to.

Suggestions from past meetings of things to bring would be pizza, cake, cookies, donuts, fruit and/or veggies and dip.

If you'd like to bring refreshments to an upcoming meeting, please give Sister Ann Vazzana a call at 244-8907. Thank you to all our volunteers as this is one more thing that keeps expenses down for the lodge.



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

02/03 - Patricia Galante  
02/12 - Joseph Galante,  
02/24 - Angela Parise  
02/27 - Sandra Meleca  
02/28 - Joseph Capogreco



## FUNDRAISERS

### Ink and Toner Cartridges!

Thank you to all the members who have been bringing us empty ink and toner cartridges. Each one gives us credit towards future printing at Staples and because of these donations many of our newsletters have printed at little or no cost this year. This is a huge savings for the lodge and enables us to put that money towards other expenses and events.

Thanks, Jennifer

## LODGE APPAREL

You can now order jackets, polo shirts, sweatshirts and baseball caps with our Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 Logo embroidered on them.

### PRICES FOR 2011:

Three-season jackets: \$75

Sweatshirts: \$35

Golf/Polo Shirts: \$25

For more information call Jennifer at 381-5540 or email [jennajlr@aol.com](mailto:jennajlr@aol.com)

# ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

## *San Gennaro Festival in Little Italy Threatened*

It all started back in January with the beginnings of an uproar in New York City's Little Italy community. Community Board #2 wanted to cancel the San Gennaro Festival! For eighty-five years this Little Italy neighborhood had been celebrating the patron Saint of Naples with food, music, dancing and the kind of neighborhood camaraderie that many of us wish we could find in our own communities today. "Little Italy" is a community in any number cities across the United States where those immigrants of Italian heritage lived together with others of their own culture.

Today, many thousands of people attend this festival located in the Little Italy neighborhood in New York City. They travel from all over our country and from Italy to celebrate heritage and pride and they also bring business to this otherwise quiet neighborhood – well, it used to be quiet until it became one of the most sought after neighborhoods for the tourists and yuppie crowds. These newcomers fight to end this celebration of Italian heritage and this is not the first Italian neighborhood to find itself under attack. The San Gennaro festival in Chicago, the Giglio Feast in the Williamsburg neighborhood of New York City and the Saint Anne's Feast in Hoboken New Jersey have all been under attack for years by those that wish to stop the noise on their streets. The San Gennaro Feast in Chicago and the St. Anthony Feast in Greenwich Village have already been discontinued because of the protests by these people.

Traditionally, all of the San Gennaro vendors were Italian but in the 1970's organizers were told they could not discriminate against other ethnic groups and today you will find vendors from all cultures. Originally, the festival was held along Mulberry Street from Worth Street to Houston but it was shortened in 1994. This year, the Community Board wants to shorten the festival by three more blocks and have it end at Kenmare Street. The movement to stop this from happening is growing faster than anyone could have predicted. One of the founders of this movement is OSIA member, John Fratta, great-grandson of the first president of the San Gennaro Society of Little Italy.

Late in January, as word came through that Community Board wanted to once again interfere with this Italian American tradition, a movement was started through social networking outlets. A Face book page called *Little Italy and San Gennaro Under Attack* has grown with hundreds of new members joining daily. People are posting from all over in favor of fighting this new ruling. Stories of their families who first settled this neighborhood are posted and you can feel the pride they have for their culture. Fratta and his supporters are asking for help as they attend Community Board meetings, make phone calls and do media interviews.

Thirty-eight board members of Community Board #2 in Manhattan NYC voted unanimously for the resolution to reduce the size of the festival itself. Included in the resolution document is: "...CB#2 Manhattan will continue to negotiate further reductions of scale and duration for subsequent years." Not only do they want to reduce the location size, but also the length of time the festival can be held because the new business owners in the area disapprove of the noise and disruption to their businesses, yet they moved their businesses into that neighborhood knowing that this festival is held every year.

The issue is now in the Mayor's office where they wait to find out the decision to be made.