



The Roar of the Lion

Marisa Rubé, editor
July/August 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Most of the time my letters discuss activities we are having, including upcoming events, past events, and lodge accomplishments.

Time seems to be flying by, summer is coming to an end, and here we are looking at our fall events. Our biggest event is the October Christopher Columbus Italian American Heritage Awards Dinner, which has a very special meaning to our lodge as a whole. Not only is the dinner our biggest fundraiser for the lodge and for our scholarship fund, but it is also a reminder of the true meaning of what we are all about. October is the chosen month that lodges across the nation celebrate and honor the explorer Christopher Columbus and our Italian roots.



The events of the last few weeks, along with the approaching end of summer have led me to realize what we truly are as an organization. The Vincent Lombardi lodge exemplifies what it means to be friends, brothers, and sisters. We have lived up to its principles of liberty, equality, and fraternity. We have provided scholarship money for students of Italian American descent to attend college as we promote a way of life that encompasses our American principles, all the while retaining our Italian heritage of respect, honor and commitment to what we have become today. I am proud to be president of such an organization and I know that our principles and ideas will continue to future generations.

If our founding father, Dr. Vincent Sellaro, were alive today, he would be proud of the accomplishments of our lodge and what we as Italian-Americans have become.

Thank you to all our members for living up to the principles and ideas of OSIA.

In closing just a quick reminder about our picnic, August 14. Please join us for an afternoon of fun.

Peace,
Fraternally,
President Vince

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State and National Events

Mon Aug 29, 2016 @ 8:00AM -
NYS OSIA Golf Outing

Sun Sep 18, 2016 @11:00AM -
Hofstra Italian Experience Festival

Sun Oct 09, 2016 @10:00AM -
Long Island Columbus Day Parade

Sat Nov 05, 2016 @11:00AM -
Garibaldi-Meucci Museum Luncheon

Sat Nov 19, 2016 @12:00PM -05:00PM
Gift of Sight Luncheon

NYS Local Lodge Events

August 6th: OSIA Districts 1 and 2: Rock and Roll
Afternoon Fundraiser (Massapequa Park, NY)

August 14th: Constantino Brumidi Lodge #221:
Testimonial Dinner Dance (Syosset, NY)

August 22nd: Fr. John Papallo Lodge #2684:
Annual Memorial Golf Outing (Smithtown, NY)

August 24th-28th: Cellini Lodge #2206: Annual
Italian Festival (New Hyde Park, NY)

September 17th: America Lodge #2245: Annual
Dinner Dance (Westbury, NY)

September 19th: Vigiano Brothers Lodge #3436:
Fall Harvest Fundraiser (Port Jefferson, NY)

September 23rd - 25th: Giuseppe Garibaldi Lodge
#2583: St. Pio Weekend (Tuckahoe, NY)

September 25th: Galileo Galilei Lodge #2253:
Testimonial Dinner Dance (Bethpage, NY)

Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 2016 Calendar

August 4th, 2016 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

**August 11th, 2016 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting/
Scholarship and Essay Awards Celebration**

**August 14th, 2016 @ 1:30pm: Annual Member
Appreciation Picnic Eyer Park (East Rochester, NY)**

September 1st, 2016 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

**September 8th, 2016 @ 7pm: General Assembly
Meeting**

October 6th, 2016 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

October 13th, 2016 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting

**October 21st, 2016 @ 6pm: Christopher Columbus
Italian American Heritage Awards Dinner Burgundy
Basin Inn (Bushnell's Basin, NY)**

November 3rd, 2016 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

**November 10th, 2016 @ 7pm: General Assembly
Meeting**

**November 2016, Date TBD: Papa Antolini's Annual
Turkey Raffle**

December 1st 2016 @ 7pm: Council Meeting

**December 3rd, 2016: Lodge Christmas Party Lodge on
the Green (Rochester, NY)**

**December 8th 2016 @ 7pm: General Assembly
Meeting**

Other District 8 Events

Geneva Lodge 2397
Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America

Annual Golf Tournament
In Support of Geneva Lodge Scholarship Programs

Monday Sept. 12th, 2016

Place: Geneva Country Club
Cost: \$90.00 per player / \$360 per team
1:00 pm shotgun start / 6:00 pm dinner at the lodge
18 hole 4 player scramble
(field limited to the first 14 teams who register)


Entry fee includes:

- Lunch at the grill
- Beverages on the course
- Steak dinner for all players at the Sons of Italy lodge and prizes awarded.

Note: You do not have to play in the tournament to attend the dinner. Extra dinner only tickets can be purchased for \$25 each.

Team applications can be dropped off to Geneva CC, or to the lodge.

For further details please call Tournament Chairman Bill Long at 315-789-8786



**Sons of Italy
Italian Festival
2016**

Sponsored by
Geneva Lodge 2397
Order Sons of Italy in America

August 12th and 13th
31 Prospect Ave., Geneva, NY 14456



8/2: John Pecora

8/3: Rosalba Moscato

8/7: Samuel Valleriani

8/11: Thomas Vazzana

8/11: Joseph Vazzana

8/12: Linda Agnello

8/12: Jerry Griffio

8/14: Hon. Frank Affronti

8/22: Ross Battaglia

8/22: Jacqueline Perrotta

8/23: Jeremy DiFilippo

8/24: Tom Meleca

8/27: Saverio LaPietra

8/31: Joseph Rubé



Our thoughts and prayers go out to Brother Quintino and Sister Nellie DiCesare as they mourn the loss of their nephew, Tony.

We keep the Geneva lodge in our hearts as they mourn the loss of their past president, Al Liberio.



The Gates Little Italy Festival, Little Italy Neighborhood Association, and our Br. Silvano Orsi were featured in the summer issue of the national publication, Italian America. The article can be found on page 16 of the magazine and discusses the promotion and development of the Little Italy Neighborhood. Congratulations Br. Silvano!



In July the Monroe County Legislature honored Nellie and Quintino DiCesare for their leadership and dedicated service to the Italian/American Community. Thank you Nellie and Quintino for all that you have done and are doing for the residents of Monroe County and for keeping the Italian culture alive in our Community.





CSJ Report

Sr. Marjorie Focarazzo

The term “social justice” is heard almost every day pertaining to race, gender, or ethnicity. It can be the advantages and disadvantages within society, but it is based on the concepts of human rights and equality. The many perceptions of social justice can be traced back to Plato, Socrates, and Aristotle. Modern ideology came about after the Renaissance and Reformation in developing human potential. The term has been attributed to Catholic thinkers from the 1840’s and coined by Jesuit Luigi Tararelli D’Azeglio, who was concerned that unclear ideas about humanity and society can lead to social chaos. He wrote about social problems as a result of the Industrial Revolution. He added the term “social” to “justice” to emphasize the social nature of human beings and ultimately the importance of various social spheres outside civic government. This resulted in conveying a just approach to helping those in need. Because we naturally join together in group, we are able to share common ideas to unite to achieve various ends, which is the essential idea of society. His vision of social justice emphasized freedom and respect.

The Commission for Social Justice is the anti-inflammatory branch of the Order of Sons of Italy in America. Its mission is to fight stereotyping of Italian Americans in entertainment, advertising, media industries, etc. and to ensure people of all races, religions, cultures, gender, and ethnicity are treated with dignity and respect. It achieves this by engaging in community and government relations and grassroots campaigns. But we must do more than fight bias, bigotry, and defamation of Italians, Italian Americans and other groups. We must do more than promoting a positive image of Italians and Americans of Italian descent through programs, materials, books, and documentaries. We must see that credit and recognition is given where it is deserved; that our accomplishments and achievements are not just glossed over and treated as inconsequential or with no significance. It is important that we let it be known of the differences we have made.

Luigi Del Bianco played an important part in bringing to life to a great American monument, Mt. Rushmore. In 1933 Gutzon Borglum, Mt. Rushmore designer, hired Del Bianco to be the chief stone carver. His job was to carve the “refinement of expression” or facial details. He carved the life-like eyes of Lincoln and singlehandedly saved the face of Jefferson by patching the crack in Jefferson’s lip with a foot deep piece of granite held in place by pins - the only patch in the entire sculpture and very difficult to detect even close up. It has taken 25 years for the National Park Service to acknowledge Luigi Del Bianco’s contribution.

Antonio Santi Giuseppe Meucci was an inventor as well as an associate of Garibaldi. Meucci is best known for developing a voice communication apparatus that has been credited as the first telephone. He submitted a patent for his telephonic device in 1871 but neglected to mention the electromagnetic transmission of vocal sound. He had studied the principles of electromagnetic voice transmission for many years and finally realized his dream in 1856 when he installed a telephone-like device within his home. Notes written in 1857 are testimony to his discovery. The painter, Nestore Corradi sketched Meucci’s idea in 1958, which was then used to produce as an image on a stamp by the Italian Postal and Telegraph Society in 2003. In 1876 Alexander Graham Bell was issued the patent for the electromagnetic transmission by wave-like electric current it has been said that *“if Meucci had been able to pay the \$10 fee to maintain the caveat after 1874, no patent could have been issued to Bell.”*

We are offended when we are misrepresented in movies, the theatre, and books. We are insulted when we are stereotyped. During the period of mass immigration, we were marked as the “other”. We suffered suspicion, hostility, abuse, and even death. We have worked hard to combat the negative labels, but we have also made contributions to the American culture and society by sharing techniques in religion, tradition, entertainment, foods and drink, architecture, art, music, and holidays. Italian contributions are often unknown by Italians themselves, so it becomes our responsibility to set the record right, to educate, and take pride in our accomplishments. The Italian contribution in modern times is no less important than during the Renaissance and Reformation.

2016 NY OSIA STATE STUDENT SUMMIT

ALBANY, NEW YORK
STUDENTS EXPLORING
CULTURE & HERITAGE

September 23 – 25, 2016

It is not too late for our incoming Senior High School Students to apply for this very special opportunity to attend this first student summit in Albany in September. It will provide those students who are of Italian descent with the ability to learn more about their Italian culture and heritage, tour the state capital, meet state government officials and interact with other students from around the State.

See the enclosed flyer and application for more info. Students who register for this event can be sponsored by the Lodge or by a family member. Although the application closing date is listed as August 1, 2016, President Reres has extended that date so those interested should get the registration in ASAP.

Please contact District 8 State Trustee Joe Rube' by phone (585-662-5606) or email (bolognadoc@aol.com) with any questions.

Essay Contest

Sr. Marjorie Focarazzo

Understanding our cultural heritage gives us a connection to values, beliefs, religions, customs, and traditions. We can identify with those who have similar mindsets and backgrounds. It can provide a sense of unity and belonging. It allows us to better understand previous generations, their history, their struggles, and their triumphs. It is made up of things large and small, of importance and commonness. We see it every day in art, architecture, and artifacts; we hear it in music; we read it in literature. It is in the food we eat, the clothes we wear, the religions we follow, and the skills we learn. We benefit from it in medicine and science. Sometimes we can touch and see what makes up our culture and other times it is intangible. We can make the past part of our future, and from there, we can value where we came from and how we got to where we are.

The CSJ Essay, *Voices from the Past*, contest hopes our children and students will want to learn and understand more of their own family and their roots. Gianni Petrella Rinaudo, a 7th Grader at Greece Arcadia Middle School, wrote about his "Papa", Giuliano Silvestro Petrella, who immigrated to the United States in 1951 at the age of 15, landing at Ellis Island and traveling onto Rochester. Giuliano joined the Army in 1956 when he was 19 and served two years in Korea. He apprenticed with a plumber when he returned home and eventually opened his own business. Although he assimilated into his new home, he brought with him from Italy and continued to carry on family traditions: home cooked meals and spending holidays with family.

Josh Ranalletta, a 7th grader at Athena Middle School, interviewed his grandfather, "Papa", Ettore Ranalletta, and while he was unable to provide answers directly to Josh, he was able to tell his story through Josh's grandmother, Nonna. As a young man, Ettore worked as an electrician and did construction all over the world, including Africa, but his dream was to come to the United States, settle down, and raise his family. In 1963 he was able to immigrate to Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, leaving behind his family in Celano, Italy. To gain employment he had to become a resident and positive changes allowed him to stay.

Brook Burgio, also a 7th grader at Athena Middle School, interviewed a fellow parishioner from the church she attends. Mario came to the United States in 1952 when he was 11 years old on a ship called the Biancamano and landed at Ellis Island. His journey, not like many, was uneventful, and he was able to stay with his family as they were processed. Mario's family originally settled in Buffalo, and he moved to Rochester when he married in 1967. His family continues to follow the traditions he brought with him. Mario has made many friends and feels he has had a good life.

Gianni, Josh, and Brooke heard how their family and friends achieved their goal of coming to America for a better life. They also are able to achieve the same goals that are available to them, a better life, through education, a strong Italian work ethic, values, and family. They have engaged in conversations to learn the whys-why did they leave their homes, everything familiar, their families; the what-what was it like, what happened, what brought them to the place they would call home, what did they expect; the where-where did they step foot on US soil, where did they finally settle; the how-how were things different, how did they assimilate. They learned of the trials and tribulations, the sacrifices, the struggles, and the triumphs. Hopefully this is only the beginning of many conversations

In July, our lodge supported a fundraiser for a young man named Nicholas Lent, who is in need of an all terrain wheelchair to help him get outside and experience the world. Many of our members contributed to the event, with monetary donations, attendance at the bbq, and donated time and labor to help make the event a success. If you would like to help Nick, a GoFundMe page has been set up on his behalf: <https://www.gofundme.com/4x4allterrain>.



Nicholas Lent



President Vince and Sister Sandy with Nicholas's mom, Ann Lent



Nicholas with Nick Rietano, who recently got his all-terrain wheelchair and demonstrated it for Nicholas.



Fifth Chapter MC of Western New York arranged the visit for Nick and Nicholas

Ann Marie Lent wrote:

We are so very close to Nick's goal for the wheelchair and wanted to say thank you again to everyone who has donated financially, physically, spiritually, emotionally and every other way!!! This has been very humbling for our family to know that so many of you care so much about Nick's well-being.

We would like to thank East Palmyra Christian School for both holding a New Year's fundraiser for him as well as allowing us to use the school for the recent chicken/pulled pork barbecue dinner. A huge shout out to both The Son's of Italy, Sandy and Tom Meleca and The Fifth Chapter MC of Western, NY including much help from Barb and Brian Cragg for their help in all areas at this event. It was wonderful to see so many people there.

We were also given the great news that there is still more donations on their way with the Blues and Barbeque from the AIEI courtesy of Mr. George Sharlow and the group of dedicated inspectors at MDIA. We are overwhelmed with their kindness to make Nicholas a priority.

We are looking at the chair to be fit by September and hopefully he'll be in the field this year by October. GET READY WILDLIFE...HE'S ON HIS WAY!!!
Thank you again for your continued generosity.

Ann



A note from your editor:

I recently received a request via our lodge website that I want to share with all members. Please, if you know of any programs that might help this family, give me a call at 585-750-8336 or email me at marisarube@gmail.com with any info and I will pass it along.

Hello,

My name is Jason and I live here in Rochester. I am contacting you because I have 2 cousins who live in Villavallelonga in Abruzzo, Italy who would like to come to Rochester to work and study English for 6 months to a year. They are 20 and 24 years old. They would stay at our home in Penfield, but we are looking for some work/study programs in which they can participate. The timeframe for their arrival would depend on the programs we can set up for them.

Does Sons of Italy Rochester run any programs such as this in which they could get involved? If not, do you know of any other institutions that do?

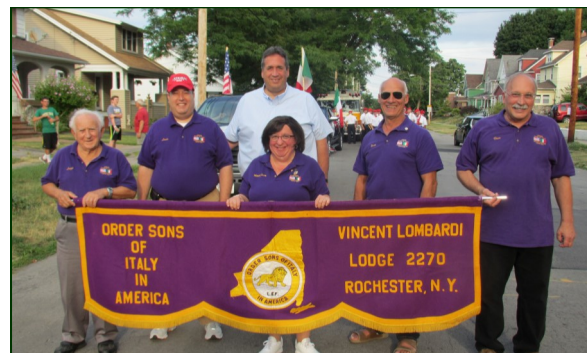
With the exception of my education and a few years of living abroad, I was born and raised in an Italian American family in Greece. My mother's maiden name is Tantalo and my grandparents are from Villa. I studied higher education administration and worked in the field until I made a career change about 8 years ago and became a professional firefighter. My wife is the Director of Study Abroad at RIT.

Any help you can give would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you, Jason



East
Rochester
Fireman's
Parade
July 30th,
2016



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