

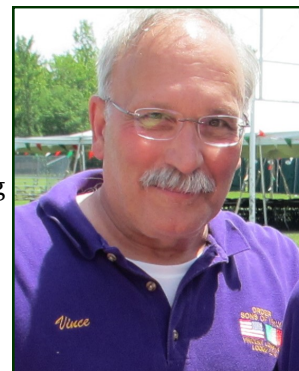


# The Roar of the Lion

Marisa Rubé, editor  
May 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

What a wonderful last couple of weeks. Events in Geneva and Rochester were very satisfying and successful. We helped celebrate Geneva's merger and lodge awards. The evening was a huge success with a wonderful meal following. We are building new friendships with our sister lodge. What a wonderful surprise to see Biagio Isgro, New York State OSIA Recording Secretary, attending and representing our state president, Carolyn Reres. Also attending that evening was Bene Emeritus, Carmine Federico, president of the Progresso Lodge #1047 in Syracuse, and yours truly, along with other members of our lodge.



Again, congratulations to all of our fellow brothers and sisters in Geneva, and all that were honored that evening.

The following day our lodge had our fifth annual regional Cibi dinner. It was a very successful and fun filled event. Once again chef Rosita Caridi- Miller outdid herself putting together a special meal from the Emilia Romagna region. Special thanks to our volunteers who made the day go so smoothly: Kitty and David DiNicola, Carol DiNicola, Patty Johns, Luigi DiFilippo, Louis DeCarolis, Tony and Gia Galvano and our two vice presidents, Tom and Sandy Meleca. A thank you also to Richard Meleca for supplying our table linens, and a very special thank you to Marjorie Focarazzo for donating the spring garden basket for raffle. Thank you also to Nick, building custodian at East Rochester, for all his help and hard work. Once again, thank you sister Rosita for a well planned and delicious meal. What exciting region of Italy will we visit next year?

May 18 will be our next initiation of new members, to be held at the Grapevine Restaurant at 7pm. All are welcome to attend. Prior to the ceremony some of us are planning to have dinner at 6 pm at the Grapevine. Feel free to come and join us for dinner. If you wish to have dinner please contact me by May 16 at 585-208-1578. We need to make reservations in advance.

East Rochester upcoming community events include a Clean Sweep being held on Saturday, May 21 and the annual Memorial Day parade. I hope you will mark your calendars to help out on these days. Details to follow from our community liaison, Brother Tony Palucci.

All members who enjoy playing or watching bocce tournaments: The Italian Civic League, which includes all local Italian organizations in our community, will be hosting a friendly competition of teams organized from each Italian group. I would like to have two or three teams represent our lodge in the tournament. The competitions will take place at the Italian Sports Club, The Italian Community Center, and the Sicilian Sports Club. Dates for this event are June 17th and 18th. Contact brothers Joseph Rubé, Tony Galvano or Tom Meleca for details.

Speaking of important events, the honorees for our October dinner have been selected and they have all accepted. For Lifetime Achievement, Paul Speranza Junior; for Humanitarian of the Year, Mary Jo Gugino Colligan; for Businessman of the Year, David Mammano; and for Family of the Year, our very own Quintino and Nellie DiCesare. Congratulations to all the honorees!

In closing I want to wish everyone a very enjoyable Spring and am looking forward to seeing you at our next general assembly meeting, Thursday, May 12.

Peace,  
Sempre Avanti,  
Fraternally,  
President Vince

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**What our brothers and sisters  
around the state are up to:**

**\*\*Please see President Vince if you are interested  
in attending any of these events\*\***

May 5th: Chinese Auction, *Per Sempre Ladies  
Lodge #2344A (Franklin Square, NY)*

May 5th: Social Night, *Guglielmo Marconi Lodge  
#2232 (Islip, NY)*

May 12th: Fashion Show, *Giovanni Caboto Lodge  
#2372 (Westbury, NY)*

May 14th: Chinese Auction, *Sgt. John Basilone  
Lodge #2442 (Blue Point, NY)*

May 15th: 96th Anniversary Luncheon, *Loggia  
Glen Cove #1016 (Westbury, NY)*

May 19th: Night at the Races, *Guglielmo Marconi  
Lodge (Islip, NY)*



**19th ANNUAL**

**New York Grand Lodge  
Foundation, Inc.**

**WALK-A-THON**

**Saturday, May 14, 2016  
Registration 8:30 AM**

**“Walk for a Cure”**

**Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 2016  
Calendar**

**May 5th, 2016 @ 7pm: Council Meeting**

**May 12th, 2016 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting**

**May 18th, 2016 @ 6pm: Dinner and New Member  
Initiation Ceremony at The Grapevine Restaurant**

**June 2nd-5th, 2016: NY OSIA Convention**

**\*\*June 2nd Council Meeting is cancelled due to NY  
OSIA Convention\*\***

**June 9th, 2016 @ 7pm: General Assembly Meeting**

**\*\*Please note, all Council and General Assembly  
meetings are held at the Eyer Building—317 Main  
Street, East Rochester**

***Other 2016 events to be on the lookout for:***

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

**October 21st, 2016: Christopher Columbus Italian  
American Heritage Awards Dinner Burgundy Basin  
(Pittsford, NY)**

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

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

*The Sons of Italy Foundation®*

**The 28th National Education &  
Leadership Awards Gala**

**Thursday, May 26, 2016  
6 p.m. Reception & 7 p.m. Program  
National Building Museum -- Washington,  
D.C.**

**Honoring:**

**Dr. Condoleezza Rice, Nicholas E. Calio, Jo-  
seph M. Mattone, Sr., Mary Ann Pessolano  
Mattone, RN/MPH, Paul Rinaldi, 2016 Sons of  
Italy Foundation® National Scholarship Recip-  
ients**



05/04:	Luigi LaPietra	05/12	Mario Daniele
05/06	Vincenzo Buonomo	05/15	Charles Russolese
05/07	Dr. Russell Gugino	05/18	Salvatore DiPerna
05/08	Philip Bellini	05/23	Clemente Suero
05/11	Richard Gigliotti	05/26	Angela Cataldi



....Joanne Albert, wife of Br. Dennis Erbetra, undergoing surgery this week.



2015 winner of our Jennifer Rubé Memorial Scholarship, Lilia Rodriquez, sent us a note to thank us again for helping her to realize her dream of working in the hospitality field. She has been accepted to Disney World in Florida as a hotel management worker. She says hello to all and hopes to attend a function when she returns from Florida. Congratulations to Lilia as she continues her journey!



The NYS Culture Committee is seeking seamstresses interested in sewing one of twenty regional dress costumes of Italy. The committee will provide a photograph of the costume, as well as the pattern, material, and trimmings needed to create the costume. The committee will also supply the headpiece and jewelry. These costumes will be worn at the 2016 Long Island and New York City Columbus Day Parades, and previewed at the NYSOSIA Annual State Convention in June. Your name will be prominently displayed and announced as one of the seamstresses involved in this exciting project. Please contact NYS Culture Committee Vice Chair. Marianne Bortone Prince at 718-631-7917 or [princem779@verizon.net](mailto:princem779@verizon.net) if you are interested in participating.



Some of you may remember last year, we mentioned a movie that we were made aware of by Lou Gallo, of our CSJ Executive Board. The movie, titled *My Italian Secret*, was not available at that time in America. We have been anxiously awaiting it's release here on Netflix and found out recently that it is finally available. Here is a short description of the film: *Under the shadow of the Nazi crusade to exterminate European Jews, cycling champ Gino Bartali and an army of his compatriots went to perilous lengths to save thousands of Italian Jews from capture and death, as recounted in this moving documentary.*



Our NYS CSJ is now selling "Save Columbus Day" t-shirts for \$10. If you would like to purchase a t-shirt, please contact Treasurer Joe Vallone at 631-269-5725 or [vjoseph982@optonline.net](mailto:vjoseph982@optonline.net).

## **CSJ Report**

### **CSJ Lodge Liaison: Marjorie Focarazzo**

The month of October has been designated National Italian American Heritage month by executive order of the US president. The proclamation recognizes the many achievements, contributions, and successes of Americans of Italian descent and Italians in America. Over 5.4 million Italians immigrated to the United States between 1820 and 1992. There are more than 26 million Americans of Italian descent living in the United States making us the fifth largest ethnic group.

There was a time when speaking Italian in the United States was considered a crime. Federico Fellini, movie director, once said, "language is culture and culture is the language", and today many of us are seeking to learn the language of our parents and grandparents in order to discover more about our heritage. We are looking for ways to identify, understand, and bond with our background.

Linguistically, the Italian language belongs to the Romance group of the Indo-European family of languages spoken primarily on the Italian peninsula. It is considered a single language with numerous dialects and is the direct offspring of the Latin spoken by the Romans. It retains the closest resemblance to Latin.

Not many today realize that not long ago it was a crime to speak Italian in the United States. In October 1941, it was decided there would be 600 monthly arrests in the state of New York and 200 in New Jersey. Germans and Italians were detained on Ellis Island. With the aftermath of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, US agents immediately rounded up Italian nationals suspected of disloyalty. More than 600,000 were arrested and detained. Most of these were immigrants in the process of becoming US citizens. Many had lived in the US for decades but had not been naturalized. Over the next few years, many Italian Americans lived under strict curfew, some were imprisoned, and more than 600,000 were labeled as "enemy aliens". They were forced to register as enemy aliens, carry photo ID booklets and surrender flashlights, shortwave radios, guns, binoculars, cameras and other "contraband." There were FBI raids on private homes. They could not travel more than 5 miles from home without a permit. The impact on Italian Americans was tremendous: families were separated, forced to give up their homes and their livelihoods, while many were interred for nearly a year and a half far from their homes. Ironically, 500,000 Italian Americans were serving in the U.S. armed forces at that time. They were the largest ethnic group in the military.

The effect on Italian culture was catastrophic. The US government targeted those whose first language was Italian and hastened its disuse in public and its teaching to children. Posters sponsored by the government proclaimed "Don't Speak the Enemy's Language! Speak American!"

Many Italian Americans immigrants and their children felt the prejudice, perhaps more so during this time frame than before. They believed their language, culture, heritage, and traditions were more than alien but hostile to the American way, so many chose to abandon who they were.

Columbus Day, October 1942, it was announced on the steps of Carnegie Hall that Italians would no longer be classified as alien enemies. More than half a century has passed since this period in our history, and the knowledge of persecution and detainment has all but been forgotten. A majority of Italians wanted to put this time period behind them. They chose to continue to achieve the dreams that they had come to this country to pursue. What happened was based on wartime hysteria. We need to educate people so this does not happen again.

There are many reasons why Columbus Day should remain: it is the beginning of the age of discovery which increased knowledge, created new products, introduced cultures, opened new markets, etc. and new challenges brought changes in maritime technology, including improved navigation, shipping, cartography, and ship building. The Age of Discovery restored the confidence of Europe from a sagging economy and fragmented political power, and connected Europe, Asia, Africa and the New World. A proclamation by the president of the US declares its importance each October. And, perhaps a significant importance, although little known, is in essence the "freedom" provided to Italian Americans during World War II from being labeled "enemies of the state."

Our persistence has prevailed! The Columbus Day Bill HB-1135 was defeated in the Colorado State Affairs Committee meeting April 25<sup>th</sup>. We will continue to celebrate as intended when it became a federal holiday in 1937. We must, however, continue to check school districts' academic calendars, and hope they will follow suit and keep the name Columbus Day.



## 2016 Lodge and Community Summer Events

**VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE**  
**Order Sons of Italy in America**

### ANNUAL MEMBER PICNIC

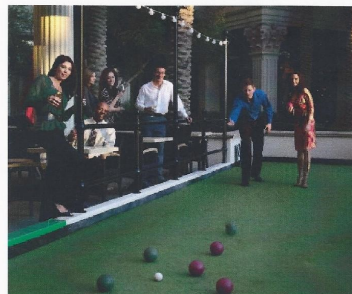


**August 14th,  
2016**

**Eyer Park  
East Rochester**

Come join fellow lodge members  
for great food, music, bocce  
competitions and much more!

(More info to follow)



### ICL BOCCE TOURNAMENT

**JUNE 17 & 18, 2016**

**STARTING: FRIDAY AT NOON & SATURDAY AT 9:00 A.M.**

Each Italian Civic League Club forms:

\* as many teams as they desire

\* 4-person teams: male, female, or mixed

\* \$20 / person; \$80 / team

\* If a team needs a substitute, it must be stated in the application;  
no changes the day of the tournament

\* Payment and application to the ICL must be received by  
**May 28, 2016**

**THE ITALIAN CIVIC  
LEAGUE INVITES  
YOU TO PLAY  
BOCCE WITHIN OUR  
CLUBS**

**FIRST & SECOND  
PLACE PRIZES  
AWARDED ALONG  
WITH A PLACK TO  
THE CLUB**

**PRIZES, TIMES, &  
LOCATIONS  
TO BE  
DETERMINED  
BASED ON OUR  
NUMBER OF TEAMS**

**QUINTINO  
DICESARE,  
ICL PRESIDENT  
TOM FOLINO,  
EVENT CHAIRMAN**

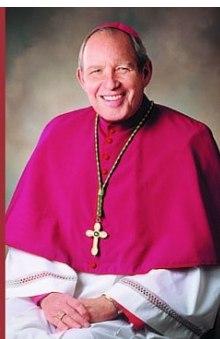
#### ITALIAN CIVIC LEAGUE

Quintino DiCesare  
14 Gemini Circle  
Rochester, NY 14606  
(585) 247-6601  
qdiculare@rochester.rr.com

**WELCOME BISHOP MATTHEW CLARK!  
ST. THEODORE'S CHURCH  
AUGUST 14, 2016 AT 11:00AM**

Special Interfaith Opening Prayer  
Welcoming all Faiths & Cultures  
Mass for the Feast of the Assumption  
Honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe

**THE BISHOP'S MASS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY  
A GRAND PROCESSION AT NOON!  
(To Gates Memorial Park)**



[www.LittleItalyFest.com](http://www.LittleItalyFest.com)



in collaboration with:







## 6th Annual Regional Italian Dinner





## VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE OFFICERS

**President**  
Vincent Giannantonio

**First Vice-President**  
Sandra Meleca

**Second Vice-President**  
Thomas Meleca

**Recording Secretary**  
Marisa Rubé

**Financial Secretary**  
Joseph Rubé, MD

**Treasurer**  
Louis DeCarolis

**Orator**  
Bonnie Cottone

**Mistress of Ceremony**  
Nancy Rubé  
Catherine DiNicola

**Sentinel**  
Ross Cottone

**Trustees**  
Edward Groszewski  
Luigi DiFilippo  
Antonio Palucci  
Marjorie Focarazzo  
Lillian Bonanni

**Immediate Past President**  
Joseph Rubé, MD

**Chaplain**  
Patricia Galante

**District VIII State  
Trustee**  
Anthony DiCostanzo

**Chaplain Emeritus**  
Sister Carole Proia

**Lodge Deputy**  
Anthony Idoni

**District VIII State Deputy**  
Joseph Rubé, MD

**Past Presidents**  
Joseph Lusardi\*  
Thomas Laverne\*  
Louis Giambra\*  
Joseph Vazzana  
John March\*  
Victor Bell\*  
Peter Cimino\*  
Sam Parese\*  
Cosmo Caceci\*  
Michael La Comba\*  
Shirley Sculli  
Phillip Dattilo  
Joseph Berta  
Joseph Rubé  
Jennifer Rubé\*



## LODGE COMMUNICATIONS

**All Vincent Lombardi Lodge communications should be sent to:**

**President Vince Giannantonio**  
61 Sunset Street, Rochester, NY 14606  
(585) 208-1578  
vinnyg1951@gmail.com