



## *“The Roar of the Lion”*

Jennifer Rubé, editor  
February 2012

### MEMBERSHIPS in OSIA

We all know that the Order Sons of Italy in America organization is for Italian Americans who are proud of their Italian heritage and wish to promote it with family and friends. Did you know that there is also a social membership for people who aren't fortunate enough to have Italian roots but who still believe in promoting the culture and heritage? Maybe they grew up in an Italian neighborhood and longed for the simple lives of the hard-working people around them.

If you are of Italian descent, married to an Italian, divorced from an Italian or adopted by an Italian, you qualify for full lodge membership. If you don't fall into one of these categories, think about a social membership. The only difference is that social members are unable to vote or hold office.

If you know of someone, of Italian descent or not, who might enjoy joining our lodge and celebrating the Italian American culture, please let us know. We have informative brochures that we can send out so that people know more about what OSIA is and stands for. For more information or for a membership application please contact Sister Jennifer Rubé at 381-5540 or jennajlr@aol.com.

### VALENTINE'S DINNER 2012

According to the many people we've heard from after the dinner dance, everyone seems to think it was a big success. I want to thank my committee members, Sisters Elizabeth Osta, Linda Agnello and Rosita Caridi-Miller, for all the work they did and most importantly for all the support and suggestions they gave me. Thank you also to everyone that donated prizes for the drawings and of course, to all of you that purchased the tickets that made it such a successful fundraiser.

Already we are being asked what the next event will be so if you have ideas, please let me know.

### LOU GIAMBRA



This month we said goodbye to a very dear friend when Brother Bene Emeritus Lou Giambra passed away. His family has requested that donations be sent to President Joe for the Giambra Family Scholarship, which is

a State Level Scholarship for the Sons of Italy. Money donated in Lou and Jean's memory will be presented to the Grand Lodge at this year's Convention. For more information please contact President Joe at (585) 461-1181.

### SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!

The Vincent Lombardi Lodge is pleased to announce that we have THREE lodge scholarships available this year.

- **The Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 Scholarship** (\$1500)
- **The Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 Past Honorees Scholarship** which is funded through donations made annually by those who have received honors or awards from our lodge in the past. (\$1000)
- **The Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 Scholarship in Honor of Dr Richard Constantino** is a one-time scholarship created through the donations received honoring Dr Constantino when he received our Man of the Year Award this year. (\$1000)

For more information or for applications for state or local lodge scholarships: Joe Berta (334-6641)



**VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE #2270**  
71 Cohasset Drive  
Rochester, New York 14618



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

February 2012

**OFFICERS**

**President**

Joseph A. Rubé, M.D.

**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

Shirley Sculli

**Sentinel**

Thomas Vazzana

**Trustees**

Linda Agnello

Salvatore Cutaia

Mary Delman

Joseph Galante

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Joseph A. Vazzana

**Chaplain**

Ann Vazzana

**Chaplain Emeritus**

Sister Carole Proia

**Lodge Deputy**

Anthony Idoni

**District VIII State Trustee**

Joseph Berta

As the month of January closes, it does so on a sad note with the passing of our beloved member, Brother Bene Emeritus Lou Giambra. We will miss him very much. Upon attending his services this weekend we noted the many whose lives he touched. At the visiting hours Friday, we were able to assemble many Brothers and Sisters to honor Lou and express our sympathy to the family and his beloved companion of 14 years Sister Mary Ricci with a brief memorial. Brother State Trustee Joe Berta was asked by State President Thom Lupo to represent him at the services and Brother Joe gave a very moving "eulogy" on behalf of President Lupo and our Lodge. The following day at the Memorial Mass, Lou's son Dick Giambra, gave a wonderful account of growing up as Lou's son in his father's home life as well as his business as a florist of citywide renown – certainly a life to celebrate. Following the mass there was a very moving military funeral service provided by our local veterans including a presentation of the flag and a 4 gun salute with "taps". Our thoughts are with you Dick and Patricia, Cynthia, Lee Reineck, Mary Ricci and your families.

Saturday evening, the Vincent Lombardi Lodge held the Valentine Dinner Dance at Midvale Country Club. This was a "fundraiser" to raise money to support Volunteer Services at the Pluta Cancer Center and our Lodge. This was a very successful event attended by 48 members, friends and family who enjoyed a great dinner, music and dancing to the Jon Seiger Band, and drawings for some super gifts donated by several local businesses, members and friends. Sister Angie Parise won the 50/50. A huge thank you to Sister Jennifer Rubé and her committee of Sisters Elizabeth Osta, Rosita Caridi-Miller and Linda Agnello, come from me as well as from the Pluta Cancer Center for the wonderful time had by all and the success it was.

I have sent a note to all members asking if anyone has an interest in filling the vacated Board positions of Trustee and Master/Mistress of Ceremonies. I have received a positive response from Bill Agnello for the Trustee position and Ross Cottone for Master of Ceremonies. There will be an "election" at the General Election meeting Thursday, Feb 9<sup>th</sup>. If there are others interested please notify me prior to that meeting.

At the January General Assembly meeting our Delegates to the State Convention were elected –congratulations to Sisters Linda Agnello, Susan Berta, and Jennifer Rubé.

I received a very nice letter from Dr. Joseph A. Polizzi noting an address change –a member for many years who lives in Sarasota, Florida. Contained in the note was an announcement that he has a recently published a new novel entitled THE GOLDEN ORRERY – Saga of a Sicilian in America. We congratulate Brother Joe on his eighth publication. He joins Brother Ed Maruggi and Sister Elizabeth Osta also publishing recently (and donated their books for the Valentine DD drawing).

>>>NEXT PAGE>>>

Visit our website at [www.sonsofitalyrochester.com](http://www.sonsofitalyrochester.com)

CONTINUED>>> Of great importance to us all is the reminder that the Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 was CHARTERED in June of 1972. This year is our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and we would like to focus on this in all the events and activities of the Lodge during the remainder of the year. Each issue of this newsletter (starting with this one) will contain at least one article related to the history of our Lodge. Sister Jennifer (Editor) will accept any information – factual or anecdotal – related to the Lodge. Lou Giambra’s family is willing to help us out in this regard and we have minutes of meetings dating back to 1983, thanks to Sister Angie Parise. If any other member are holding any relevant papers or articles from past years we would appreciate them becoming part of the Archives of the Lodge. We have received from the Supreme Lodge, a copy of the application for being chartered in 1972 which gives us the names of all the original charter members. We have several albums of photos and welcome photos from anyone that wishes to share them with us. If you don’t want to give up your personal photos, we would be happy to make copies and return the originals to you. We have notified the Grand Lodge that this is our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and we appreciate any help in recognizing this milestone.

Another important note to pass along is that Brother Joe Berta’s tenure as State Trustee for District 8 comes to an end in June. Brother Joe has served us very well through these past 3 ½ years. If any member of our Lodge is considering running for this position please notify me. As soon as the Grand Lodge sends us the notice we will be able to give the qualifications for this position. As in the past the Lodge membership supports the nomination of a member seeking this position. I’m sure that Brother Joe would be willing to share with anyone interested what would be expected in this elected position within the State Grand Council.

In closing – as always – our thoughts and prayers to the men and women of our Armed Forces who have in the past, and currently protect our Country. Our best wishes go out to anyone who has been ill or who has lost a loved one.

Fraternally yours,

Dr. Joe Rubé, President

## 45 YEARS OF CAROSELLO ITALIANO with JOE CAPOGRECO

Congratulations to Brother Joe Capogreco who is celebrating 45 years on the local radio airwaves as the host of Carosello Italiano. Brother Joe is planning a celebration on April 13<sup>th</sup> at Mario’s Restaurant which will include dinner and a concert by Michael Castaldo. If you would like more information or tickets to the concert, please contact Brother Joe. A number of lodge members have already expressed an interest in going so there may be enough of us to reserve a table. Seating is limited. Ticket Price: \$45

To learn more about the artist, visit [www.michaelcastaldo.com](http://www.michaelcastaldo.com).



## “WARM HUGS” CLOTHING DRIVE UPDATE



Thanks to our members, Pittsford Business Owners and organizations such as the Angels of Mercy, we have collected almost a hundred coats, several hundred pairs of mittens and gloves, hats, scarves, boots, sweaters and more for the kids at School #12. Here is a picture of some of the kids with their new coats. Thank you to everyone who participated or donated to this worthy program!

# VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Congratulations to **Brother Matthew Sisto** who was accepted into the University of Rochester's Early Acceptance Program. This was his first choice of schools and we wish him luck!

Congratulations to **Brother Louis DeCarolis** on his recent engagement to Cindy Carroll. They are planning a late Fall wedding.

Congratulations to **Jamie and Jill Kaim** (President Elect of the Geneva Men's Lodge and Immediate Past President of the GAIL Lodge, respectively) who are expecting their first child this Spring.

## BITS & PIECES

Pop singer **Lady Gaga's** parents, Joe and Cynthia Germanotta, opened the doors to their new, family-style Italian restaurant in Manhattan's Upper West Side this week. The new restaurant, "Joanne's Trattoria" is named after Gaga's aunt, and will showcase family recipes from Lady Gaga, her grandmother and her father.

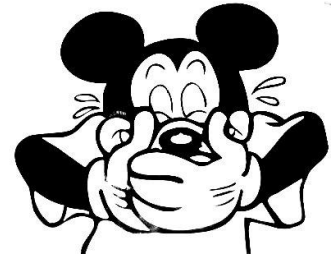
The Italian American community is awaiting the arrival of the new Italian Ambassador to the United States, **Claudio Bisogniero**, who will succeed Ambassador Giulio Terzi di Sant'Agata, now serving as Italy's foreign minister. He is expected to present his credentials to the White House this month and officially be in Washington in early February. Bisogniero last served in Washington in 1992 as the First Counselor for Economic and Commercial Affairs.

## ITALIAN HUMOR

After having dug to a depth of 10 feet last year, British scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 200 years. They came to the conclusion that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 150 years ago.

Not to be outdone by the Brits, in the weeks that followed an American archaeologist dug to a depth of 20 feet. A story was subsequently published in the New York Times: "American archaeologists, finding traces of copper wire 250 years old, have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-tech communications network - fifty years earlier than the British did."

One week later, *La Stampa*, an Italian Newspaper in Turin, Italy, reported: "After digging as deep as 30 feet in his backyard, Giuseppe Gioconi, a self-taught archaeologist, reported that he found absolutely nothing. Gioconi has concluded that 250 years ago, Italy had already gone wireless."



Makes you truly proud to be Italian.....

## DIRECTORY

Brother Joseph Polizzi has sent us this update. Please change the address in your membership directory.

Dr. Joseph A. Polizzi  
"Whispering Oaks"  
8235 46<sup>th</sup> Court East  
Sarasota, Florida 34243-4350

Sister Angie Parise has moved and has a new apartment number. The address itself is still the same but the apartment number has changed to #2.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

NYSOSIA 2012 scholarship applications are now available. You can download an application at [www.nysosia.org](http://www.nysosia.org) or call Brother Joe Berta at 585-334-6641 to obtain a copy. The application deadline is 3/31/2012.

National OSIA has announced the opening of the 2012 National Leadership Grant competition. Applications are now available through Brother Joe. You can read all about these scholarship awards on the national website at [www.osia.org](http://www.osia.org). The application deadline is Feb. 28, 2012.

# VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- **February 2<sup>nd</sup>** – 7:00PM OSIA Board Meeting at Casa Italiana (info: Pres. Joe 461-1181)
- **February 9<sup>th</sup>** – 7:00PM OSIA General Assembly Meeting at Casa Italiana (info: Pres. Joe 461-1181)
- **March 1<sup>st</sup>** – 7:00PM OSIA Board Meeting at Casa Italiana (info: Pres. Joe 461-1181)
- **March 8<sup>th</sup>** – 7:00PM OSIA General Assembly Meeting at Casa Italiana (info: Pres. Joe 461-1181)
- **April 13<sup>th</sup>** – Save the Date! Joe Capogreco's 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

## AVIS CAR RENTAL DISCOUNTS

OSIA has a new promotion for discounts on AVIS Auto Rentals.

Receive \$20 off a weekly rental or one free Weekend Day.

Contact Jennifer at 381-5540 if you would like these coupons.

## NEW MEMBERS

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.

## SUNSHINE CORNER

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.

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

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



### Our lodge can be found online!

Check out our lodge website at [www.sonsofitalyrochester.com](http://www.sonsofitalyrochester.com) or look for us on Facebook by searching for Sons of Italy Rochester NY. You can visit the NY State Grand Lodge website at [www.nyosia.org](http://www.nyosia.org) and the National Supreme Lodge at [www.osia.org](http://www.osia.org).

## 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.

Ideas: cake, cupcakes, brownies, cookies, fresh cut up fruit, sheet pizza or anything else you wish to bring.

If you'd like to bring refreshments to the next meeting, please give Sister Ann Vazzana a call at 224-8907. Thank you to all our volunteers as this is one more thing that keeps expenses down for the lodge.

## NEWS FROM GENEVA

Upcoming Geneva Lodge Events:

February 5<sup>th</sup>: Superbowl Bar Party

February 5<sup>th</sup>: Super \$6550 Bingo

February 11<sup>th</sup>: Valentine Bash

Call the Geneva Lodge at 315-781-2242 for more information

From the....

# SONS OF ITALY BLOGGER

## A Unique Italian Gift to America

Behind the Lincoln Memorial four bronze equestrian statues guard the Potomac River. Gilded with a total of 100 pounds of 24-karat gold, their completion in 1950 was a gift from the people of Italy to the United States

“They stand out,” said Matthew Virta, the Cultural Resources Program Manager for the George Washington Memorial Parkway. “You can see them shining in the sun.”

Two decades passed between the selection of the American sculptors and the dedication of the statues on Sept. 26, 1951. Without Italy’s gift, it’s uncertain what their fate would have been. The Commission of Fine Arts developed the idea for unique works to complete the Arlington Memorial Bridge Plaza in 1929. Through a contest, they selected Leo Friedlander and James Earle Fraser as the sculptors in 1931.

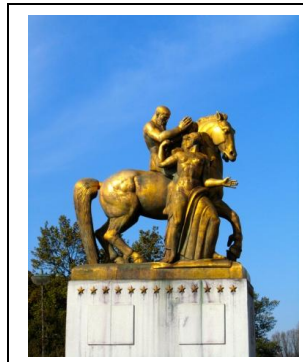
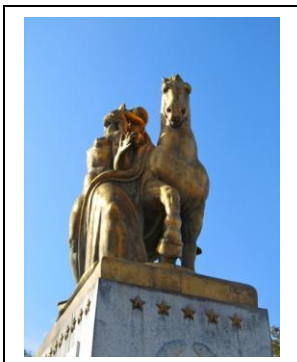
The works were originally intended to be made from granite, but the plan was scrapped because of high costs during the Great Depression. Bronze became the decided substitute but the process was delayed again with the onset of World War II. Both artists finally completed full-size plaster models in 1938.

The models sat in storage until 1949 when Alberto Tarchiani, the Italian Ambassador to the United States, decided that Italy would take on the responsibility of casting and gilding the statues as “a gesture of good will.” The models were then crated and transported on two ships that left the port of New York between the end of 1949 and beginning of 1951.

One was sent to Naples, another to Rome, a third to Milan, and the final one to Florence. It took 14 months to complete the application of a “fire-gilt” finish on each of the statues. Virta said that because the statues were intended for outdoors, it was recommended that they be gilded in gold because bronze develops a patina.

“The fact that they were gilded keeps them bold,” he said. After being returned to America, the statues have sat in their permanent home on the Arlington Memorial Bridge Plaza since June 19, 1951. Maintained by the National Park Service, the statues are cleaned every several years, but have weathered extensively. A recent architectural study completed for the Park Service by John G. Waites Associates proposed a plan to re-gild the statues, but right now it isn’t in the budget.

“Unfortunately some of the estimates were quite high and the park competes for funding,” Virta said. Each of the four statues represents a theme of war and peace. The statues of Valor and Sacrifice sculpted by Friedlander mark the entrance to the Arlington Memorial Bridge. The statues of Music and Harvest, and Aspiration and Literature, both sculpted by Fraser, sit at the entrance to Rock Creek Park.



# HAPPY 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE

The Vincent Lombardi Lodge 32270 received its Charter in June of 1972. How or why our founding fathers chose the name - Vincent Lombardi - for its name is unclear from the information we have on hand. It was felt that the first in the series of articles to appear in this newsletter should try to give some insights into the character of the man and how that might have influenced taking that name.

**VINCENT THOMAS LOMBARDI** was born in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, NY. in 1913 and died in 1970 at the age of 57 at Georgetown University Hospital of colon cancer. He is buried at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Middleton Township, NJ. A timeline of his life and career is summarized here with no indication of a relation to Rochester, NY.

**1928 – 1932- graduates eighth grade from PS 206 and attends seminary at Cathedral College in Brooklyn**

**1933 – 1937 –attends Fordham University and plays both offensive and defensive line (5’8 -178 lb) one of those known as the “Seven Blocks of Granite)**

**1939 – 1948 – coaches football at St Cecilia HS, Englewood, NJ after 4 straight seasons without a loss –named best HS football program in nation**

**1949 – 1953 – offensive line coach West Point**

**1954 – 1958 – offensive coordinator for New York Giants with Tom Landry as defensive coordinator**

**1959 – 1967 – head coach of Green Bay Packers – coaches Packers to 10 post season games, a record tied only by Bill Belichick (Patriots) ends career 96-34-6 -.738 win percentage –still best in NFL.**

**Cover of Time Magazine 1962, Insignis Medal from Fordham 1967, inducted into Knights of Malta and member of Knights of Columbus**

**1968 –1969 – general manager Packers**

**1969 – 1970 – head coach Washington Redskins**

Some characteristic things attributed to Vince Lombardi include:

- Being Italian was an intrinsic part of his success and he believed knowing one’s ethnicity was vital to overcoming obstacles and reaching goals.
- Said that success rests upon commitment, loyalty, and pride rather than ability
- He experienced ethnic prejudice and discrimination in both his professional and personal life - before marrying Marie Planitz her father said regarding marriage –“No you’re not. He’s Italian.”
- He was famous for his dedication to drills – practices were some of the most grueling in sports. Packer football was always tough yet clean unrelenting and aggressive with few penalties.
- Always knew it was his players, not him, who were ones who had to fight for a victory.
- He spoke out against trends in education and sports where mediocrity was not just pursued but celebrated.
- He espoused patriotism, winning, value of competition, and value of victory
- A quote “Vincero non e’ tutto.... Vincero e’ l’unica cosa” (To win is not everything, to win is the only thing.)
- His biography is one of a tough sentimentalist who demonstrated that dedication, integrity, and discipline are not outdated virtues, and that while losers need sympathy, winners deserve respect.

These comments taken from PRIMO magazine’s special tribute to Vince Lombardi and a bio called **LOMBARDI His life and Times** by Robert Wells, tend to confirm that the life of Vince Lombardi and his commitment to his heritage, values and country are similar to those on which the Order of the Sons of Italy In America was founded in 1905 and thus a very fitting man to be the namesake of our Rochester Vincent Lombardi Lodge #2270 chartered shortly after his death. JAR

# VINCENT LOMBARDI LODGE



## FEBRUARY QUIZ:

Name the Italian City in which the monument or event is found

- 1) The Palace of the Doges
- 2) Casa di Giulietta (Juliet's Balcony)
- 3) Villa Borghese and Trevi Fountain
- 4) Boboli Gardens and Ponte Vecchio
- 5) La Scala
- 6) Campo and Corso dell Palio
- 7) Capodimonte and cameo artisan workshops
- 8) Basilica di San Francesco
- 9) Mercato della Vucciria
- 10) Valle dei Templi

## ITALIAN LANGUAGE LESSONS

SNOW  
ICE  
SCARF  
GLOVES  
SKI  
COLD  
SNOWFLAKE

neve  
ghiaccio  
sciarpa  
guanti  
sci  
freddo  
fiocco di neve



### February Quiz Answers:

- 1) Venice
- 2) Verona
- 3) Rome
- 4) Florence
- 5) Milan
- 6) Sienna
- 7) Naples
- 8) Assisi
- 9) Palermo
- 10) Agrigento



San Valentino felice

