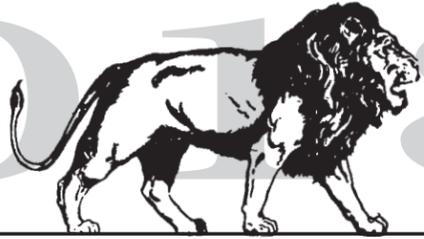


2018



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**OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA
WHOSE JURISDICTION COVERS
CALIFORNIA, NEVADA AND
KLAMATH COUNTY IN OREGON**



IL LEONE



APRIL 2018

VOL. 72 NO. 4

To All Members
If the address, name or title is not correct on the mailing label, please send it to the Grand Lodge, 5051 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94112. Be sure to notify your lodge Recording Secretary

A Message From The State President



State President
John Costa

Spring is upon us, March has been a pretty wet month, hopefully this continues into April, as April showers bring May flowers.

I am writing this after March Grand Council is complete in Sacramento. Thank you to the members who came and watched the Grand Council at work. Remember we are here to work for you. I appreciate each member that was there! I will touch on the highlights later in my article.

On an exciting note, last year at convention I mentioned that the bill was in the US Senate to name the new post office in Vallejo the Janet Cappello post office, I was told that the bill has been passed and is waiting for the president of the United States to sign. Once this is signed I will send a notice out to all the Lodge Presidents. I am sure the Vallejo Lodges will have a celebration once this is official, be on the lookout for more info. A well-deserved honor, for a true "Daughter of ITALY!" I know she would be looking down on us in her hat smiling. I hope we are making you proud Janet.

National is having a "Calendar Fund Raiser" They are selling \$20.00 chances at winning prize money for the month of October. Each Grand Lodge officer has calendars and we can get more from National. Let's help support National. On a side note when we were in Atlanta in February for the winter plenary, we brought our "365" raffle tickets with us and sold 29 tickets. Thank you Lynn, Maria and Arlene. If you don't want all of our money going to other states I suggest each lodge buy a couple of tickets.

Regarding National, their finances are looking good; they had a legacy donation left to them in the amount of \$300,000 and another of \$17,000. These were unrestricted funds and with part of the money they were able to pay down the mortgage on the National Office to be able to pay off a lot sooner. The rest will be invested.

One other item at National. Thanks has been established is a OSIA store www.cafepress.com, find the link on the National website, by the way the National website is up and running, there is a lot of information and a members only section, you can access. Be sure to check out the CSJ section for some great articles on Columbus. As you know we are fighting the name change, statue removal throughout the United States, I just heard it is now being talked about in California at the State level. More info will be coming.

As I mentioned above March Grand Council is complete. Thank you to all the officers for your attentive ears and cooperation over the weekend. It does make my job a lot easier.

The trustees met and found the books in order. Any questions they had were answered by the Gabe (financial Secretary), Al (treasurer), Lori (bookkeeper and WSRS) and Arlene (office manager). They did try and stump us but I think they are happy the way things are going. One cost saving item on a personal matter I have discontinued the separate state president cell phone and I am using my personal one. Please use 707-483-9604 and please do not write on the bathroom wall, you know who I am talking too!

All officers gave their reports and any and all questions were answered. Gabe, our Financial Secretary, showed we are on the right track with our spending and receipts and that showed when we reviewed the budget. It is nice to see us in the black instead of the red.

The Western Foundation part of the meeting was run by foundation Trustee Mark

cont. on pg. 3

News from the Central

by Arlene Nunziati
State 1st Vice President



I just returned from a well-run Grand Council meeting in Sacramento. State President John Costa did a great job. I was a little upset at the poor audience attendance. We alternate areas so that our members may attend and see their Grand Council in action and this is the opportunity to ask questions. There were not many members from other lodges in attendance. I think that maybe we should have all meetings in San Francisco where we can utilize our beautiful hall and save money.

The end of February I was in Atlanta, Georgia attending the first plenary of National President Vera Girolami's term. It was an excellent meeting and lots of work and reports were reviewed. One of the things that she has instigated is that each of the Vice Presidents is responsible for certain reports and committees. In other words, they have to check on the progress of committees and make sure they are doing their job. When it is time for reports, the VP's make sure that the reports are written and submitted for meetings. This is something that we might think about for our Vice Presidents. I want to congratulate my friend National President Vera on a well-run meeting.

While I have been inputting information into our new membership system, I have come across many beneficiary forms that were not updated upon the death of a spouse or beneficiary. Financial Secretaries, when there is a death in your lodge and they are regular members,

cont. on pg. 3

News from the South

by Sadie Tamburine
State 2nd Vice President



Grand Council Meeting went well. Many ideas and suggestions were exchanged. We must improve communication. I am going to ask my Trustees and State Deputies to PLEASE pass on information when you attend meetings of lodges and report back to me and the Grand Lodge if you become aware of any misunderstandings or misinterpretations of things said at a meeting.

Italian Trivia:

1. Italy only became a country in 1861. 85 years after the United States. Italy was 16 separate kingdoms before 1861 and became a monarchy at that time. It became a Republic after WWII in 1946.
2. Italy has 60 million people, the size of California & New York combined! When you think of all their history & contributions to the world, Italy's population is rather small in comparison to larger countries.
3. Italy land size is only about 116 square miles about the size of Arizona! It is a rather small country based on land mass and is mostly mountainous.
4. There are about 18 million Italian-Americans in the United States! Sounds like a lot, but Argentina and Brazil have more citizens of Italian decent than the United States

I would like to thank brother Salvatore Provenza for his research.

News from the North

by Barbara Wisniewski
State 3rd Vice President



I have been away for most of this month. Visiting with my 90-year-old dad, Sam Fumosa Past President of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey. Sam taught me about the Order Sons of Italy (now Order Sons and Daughters of Italy). He taught me the love of the Order. He and my Mom, Rita Fumosa, were both local Lodge Presidents. My first office in the Order was as Recording Secretary for the West Essex Lodge in Fairfield, NJ during my mother's term as President. (The Lodge has since changed its name to Padre Pio Lodge.)

All of us have distinct reasons for being members of the Order but we all share the love of the Order. Those that joined us at the Grand Council meeting last month, I applaud you. I hope you were able to see the workings of the Grand Council and how we work for the benefit of all our members.

The Grand Council works for the good of the Order. Sometimes it is hard to keep what our districts think is best apart from what is best for our Grand Lodge and we as individuals struggle with some decisions, but always, must keep the good of the entire membership upmost in our deliberations.

I am planning to volunteer at the Grand Lodge Office this month for a couple of days. Having done so in the past has helped me understand what it takes to keep our Grand Lodge working smoothly. I would recommend that all our members that might have some free time would do so also. We

cont. on pg. 3

From the Editor's Desk

by Andy Pampuro
apampuro@comline.com



This is the April issue and in two months we will be attending the Grand Lodge Convention. I will be looking forward to the Il Leone sponsors making their annual contributions. The new sponsor's list will appear in the July-August issue. If you are not going to be at the convention you can send your contribution to me and I will announce it at the convention. It is \$25 per person per year. I sincerely hope that all your names will appear on the new list. Without your contributions the paper would be in trouble.

Consider also making a donation to the youth group.

Save the Date

Please do not plan anything for your lodge for September 22, 2018. That is the night of the Humanitarian and Leadership Gala. It will be held at the Double Tree Hotel in Santa Ana. We would appreciate it if all the lodges support this important event. More information will follow.

Sadie Tamburine
State Second Vice President
Chairlady



Brian Watson does a fabulous job with the kids at the convention but can't do what he does without money. Read his article and consider making a donation to him.

Don't forget the Royal Opportunity Tickets. The

queen or prince running from your lodge is depending on your support. The cost is only 6 for \$5. Certainly we can all afford to buy a few of those.

Thanking you all in advance for your financial help.





IL LEONE

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Andrew Pampuro, Editor
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Grand Lodge of California Website OSIACA.org

GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA

5051 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94112 • Phone (415) 586-1316

State President
JOHN COSTA
1801 Trower Ave
Napa, CA 94558
Cell #: 707-483-9604
Email: jc19632002@yahoo.com

State First Vice President
ARLENE M. NUNZIATI
125 Humboldt Road
Burlingame, CA 94010
Phone #: 650-342-3313
Fax #: 650-342-3310
Cell #: 415-608-3313
Email: rlene49@pacbell.net

State Second Vice President
SADIE PARISI TAMBURINE
1925 Circle Park Lane
Encinitas, CA 92024
Phone #: 760-452-6108
Cell #: 760-613-6178
Email: sadie.k@att.net

State Third Vice President
BARBARA FUMOSA WISNIEWSKI
20987 Gunnison Ct.
Reno, NV 89508
Cell #: 201-874-5946
Email: BarbReno1949@aol.com

Immediate Past State Pres.
CAROLYN LAWRENCE-MURPHY
1475 Sulphur Springs Ave.
St. Helena, CA 94574
Phone: 707-963-0521
Cell #: 707-694-8621
Fax #: 707-968-9709
Email: clawrence2844@sbcglobal.net

State Orator
MARK VAONA
2802 Knobe St.
Torrance, CA 90501
Cell #: 310-739-4238
Email: Mvaona@gmail.com

State Recording Secretary
LORI ROSSI
4540 St. Andrews Ct.
Fairfield, CA 94534
Cell #: 209-404-1883
Email: loriatthegrandlodge@gmail.com

State Financial Secretary
GABE DOMENICI
1034 Apple Blossom Ln
Corona, CA 92881
Phone # 951-737-4306
Work #: 951-278-8780
Fax #: 951-278-1049
Cell #: 951-258-8130
Email: gdomen01@msn.com

State Treasurer
AL TRENTINI
25572 Saltwater Dr.
Dana Point, CA 92629-1508
Phone #: 949-240-8578
Cell #: 949-436-0242
Email: nicolomac@cox.net

State Trustee North
BILL MURPHY
1475 Sulphur Springs Ave.
St. Helena, CA 94574
Phone #: 707-963-0521
Email: petalumabill@gmail.com

State Trustee North
RAYMOND BINI
128 Nalisty Dr.
Vallejo, CA 94590
Cell #: 707-688-3751
Email: Raymond.bini@gmail.com

State Trustee Central
PAULINE RICHMOND
26248 Road 188
Exeter, CA 93221
Phone #: 559-592-5466
Cell #: 559-731-4035
Email: rteelee@aol.com

State Trustee Central
LOUISE SILACCI
13579 Francisco Dr.
Hanford, CA 93230
Cell #: 559-582-6952
Phone #: 559-639-9800
Email: silaccilu@gmail.com

State Trustee South
MANNY FINAZZO
9093 Tangelo
Fontana, CA 92335
Phone #: 909-823-5161
Email: manveta@aol.com

State Trustee South
CARMINE BAFFO
19560 Rolling Greens
Apple Valley, CA 92308
Cell #: 760-885-8256
Email: carminnie@earthlink.net

PAST STATE PRESIDENTS

CAV. MARIA FASSIO PIGNATI (2009-2013)
268 Delmar Way
San Mateo, CA 94403
Phone #: 650-574-5786
Cell #: 415-370-3956
Fax #: 650-577-9349
Email: abondnza@aol.com

VERA FERRARA GIROLAMI (2005-2007)
3115 Lake Albano Drive
San Jose, CA 95135
Cell #: 209-604-3149
Email: algvera@sbcglobal.net

ROY T. VANONI (2003-2005)
2160 Land End Loop
Roseville, CA 95747
Phone & Fax #: 916-872-4999
Cell #: 530-520-4401
Email: rvanoni@surewest.net

JOHN TEDESCO (1999-2001)
18 Carvel Place
Sacramento, CA 95835-2012
Phone #: 916-419-6606
Fax #: 916-419-6626
Work #: 916-419-6646
Cell #: 916-207-1603
Email: tedescojt@aol.com

ARTURO IBLETO (1995-1997)
1492 Lowell Avenue
Cotati, CA 94928
Phone #: 707-795-1489
Fax #: 707-792-2046
Work #: 707-792-2712

RALPH AGNELLO (1993-1995)
226 N Carl Dr.
Visalia, CA 93291
Phone #: 559-627-3956
Email: alexgooddog1@gmail.com

FRANK J. DE SANTIS (1989-1991)
9562 James Circle
Villa Park, CA 92861
Phone #: 714-637-7267
Fax #: 714-550-9234
Work #: 714-550-9155
Email: Frankjdesantis@yahoo.com

CHRIS LOTITO (1987-1989)
437 Audraire Drive
Glendale, CA 91202
Phone #: 818-242-2469
Fax #: 818-242-2002
Cell #: 818-422-4927
Email: italianopapa26@gmail.com

JOSEPH SIMILE (1975-1979)
Dale Commons #248
3900 Dale Rd
Modesto, CA 95356-8662
Phone #: 209-701-8340
Email: joe-dot_simile@msn.com

GRAND LODGE QUEEN

MARY LUCIDO
164 Copper Knoll Way
Oakley, CA 94561
Phone #: 925-783-6329
email: marylucido.1@gmail.com

EMERITUS ROLL

Grand Lodge Queen Emeritus
DONNA ROMANAZZI GRIST
13725 S. Tamarak Dr.
Plainfield, IL 60544
Phone #: 559-625-3115
Cell #: 559-786-8124
Email: gristd124@comcast.net

WESTERN FOUNDATION

Western Foundation
ROY T. VANONI
2160 Land End Loop
Roseville, CA 95747
Phone/Fax #: 916-872-4999
Cell #: 530-520-4401
Email: rvanoni@surewest.net

CHAIRPERSONS OF COMMITTEES

Media
ANDY PAMPURO
718 D Avenida Majorca
Laguna Woods, CA 92637
Phone #: 949-855-4279
Fax #: 949-206-0299
Cell #: 949-637-5477
Email: apampuro@comline.com

Judiciary
HON. AL GIROLAMI
3115 Lake Albano Drive
San Jose, CA 95135
Cell #: 209-531-6553
Email: alveragiro@yahoo.com

Grand Lodge Building
Grand Lodge Office
415-586-1316

Budget and Finance
DAVID LAVEZZARI
6797 Reefton Ave.
Cypress, CA 90630
Phone #: 714-897-8134
Email: taxcpa4you@aol.com

Scholarship
Students to Italy Program
ROSEMARIE VANDERHAAR
801 W. Duarte Rd. #1
Monrovia, CA 91016
Phone #: 626-254-0449
Cell #: 626-222-7768
Email: rgeorev@aol.com

Italian Language & Culture
MARIA FASSIO PIGNATI
268 Delmar Way
San Mateo, CA 94403
Phone: 605-574-5786
Cell #: 414-370-3956
Fax #: 650-577-9329
Email: Abondnza@aol.com

Youth
BRIAN WATSON
4308 North Dewitt
Fresno, CA 93727
Phone #: 559-285-6934
Email: Pumbaa673@yahoo.com

Social Justice
TONY RICEVUTO
5356 Polizze Ave.
Las Vegas, NV 89141
Phone #: 702-896-1515
Email: Tony_Ricevuto@hotmail.com

Ritual and Protocol
DONNA LEE COSTA
1801 Trower Ave.
Napa, CA 94558
Cell #: 707-312-8134
Email: 2begrumpy@gmail.com

Queen Contest
EVA LAVEZZARI
6797 Reefton Ave.
Cypress, CA 90630
Phone #: 714-897-8134
Email: Stringina@aol.com

Webmaster
ANNA M. GRAEBER
4206 Chardonnay Ct.
Napa, CA 94558
Phone #: 707-255-5242
Cell #: 707-287-5225
Email: osia.ca.webmaster@gmail.com

Royal Court Of The Golden Lion
CHRIS LOTITO
437 Audraire Drive
Glendale, CA 91202
Phone #: 818-242-2469
Cell #: 818-422-4927
Fax #: 818-242-2002
Email: italianopapa@aol.com

Leadership
ARLENE NUNZIATI
125 Humboldt Rd.
Burlingame, CA 94010
Phone #: 650-342-3313
Cell #: 415-608-3313
Email: rlene49@pacbell.net

Membership
GARY SMITH
1225 Stewart ave,
Chico, CA 95926
Phone #: 530-321-4074
Email: grsmith73@gmail.com

Birth Defects Libraries
HAZEL ANN CHRISTIN
2173 Knowlwood Dr.
Hanford, Ca 93230
Phone #: 559-582-3597
Cell #: 559-309-3597
Email: hazelannc@comcast.net

Athletic
MARY LOTITO
437 Audraire Drive
Glendale, CA 91202
Phone #: 818-242-2469
Cell #: 818-414-9908
Fax #: 818-242-2002

Garibaldi Meucci Museum
JOY BRUNO
1778 Nephi Drive
Fairfield, CA 94534
Phone #: 707-422-3391
Cell #: 707-332-5623
Email: joy.b@comcast.net

National/Medical Charities
MIKE CARROLL
P O Box 198
Sonoma, CA 95476
Phone #: 707-938-1295
Email: mcarroll@pon.net

Hall Rental Manager
BARBARA MUSELLI
5051 Mission St.
San Francisco, CA 94112
Phone #: 415-742-9366

CONVENTION AND GRAND COUNCIL MEETINGS COORDINATOR
LYNN LAWRENCE-MURPHY LORI ROSSI

NATIONAL OFFICERS FROM CALIFORNIA

VERA GIROLAMI
National President
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President's Message cont. from pg. 1

Rossi, as Roy, our CAO decided to take a trip south of the border. Thank you, Mark Rossi, for stepping in and doing a great job. We are currently looking for another trustee for the Western Foundation board, from the southern district; one thing we ask our trustee from the board to do is to find fundraising ideas for the Foundation. If interested please contact myself or Roy or the grand lodge office for info.

John Bianco gave his report on the Future of the Building Committee" This is a fact finding committee to report the facts to the Grand Council and at convention items we have been discussing, such as the tax ramification if we were to sell the building, another item is the liability that we have regarding the ADA. The Grand Council established a budget for the committee to get these items done. One thing I want to mention regarding the building, because I have been approached by a couple of members, is, if we sell the building does the money split among the lodges or stay with the Grand Lodge. The answer is it stays with the Grand Lodge. Feel free to contact me with any other questions.

5051 Mission our Hall rental company has been doing a great job in renting our

building and parking lot. With some improvements in the lighting in the Hall of Mirrors she feels we will be an even more attractive venue. Thank you Barbara, for your hard work in showing and renting our Grand Lodge building.

Baseball season is beginning and all the local teams are having their heritage games. The only dates I have so far are in the northern district, San Francisco Giants August 24th, Oakland A's August 4th from my home town of Vallejo, the Vallejo Admirals an independent league (that won the 2017 championship) will be having theirs on June 20th. Last year they had instead of the first pitch being thrown out they had the first bocce ball rolled out. Let's try and support all of our teams throughout California.

Our convention in Ontario is taking shape, more info is coming shortly, also the Gala will be held in Santa Ana this September. More info on this also.

I want to close with this; "you know when you buy a bag of salad and it starts getting brown and has gross water in it..... Doughnuts never do that!! So enjoy a donut and sign up a new member. My phone is on, any questions please call!!

Yours fraternally,
John

1st State Vice President cont. from pg. 1

please send them a new beneficiary form to fill out. Also upon the death of a regular member, please contact the family and advise them of the procedure to collect the insurance.

Any financial secretary who has any questions about the beneficiary forms or new applications, please call the Grand Lodge.

The green membership forms should be sent to the Grand Lodge each month even if there is no activity. They can be emailed.

My sincere appreciation to State 3rd Vice President Barbara Wisniewski who came to the Grand Lodge with Joy Bruno and assisted with the filing. She is going to come again with a member of the Sparks Lodge.

The convention ads have been coming in. Remember there is still time to email an ad.

Not much to report this month. I am always available to answer your questions and welcome them.

There are still 365 tickets available!

Happy Easter everyone.

3rd State Vice President cont. from pg. 1

have only our office manager currently in the office with our volunteer bookkeeper one day per week. To run an office smoothly we need more help. We in the North are closer and perhaps more able. If you can spare some time we would all appreciate it. So how are we doing with our one new member per member? Remember we are in April and have eight more months to make this a success.

Have you all purchased your 365 raffle tickets? You can get them from your Lodge President, your State Deputy or any State Officers. I have won once already. You have to be in it to win it!

We have a new fundraiser from our Supreme Lodge. We are selling a limited number of October 2018 calendars raffle for \$20.00. There are 33 opportunities to win in the month of October. The minimum win is \$100.00. On Columbus Day we will award two \$500.00 wins. As each stub is picked it immediately goes back into the pot to possibly win again just like our own 365 raffle. See your State Officers to participate.

Till next month...



The Youth Committee needs *your* help!

Brothers and Sisters,

It is that time again, Time to support the Little Lion Youth Program. Once again we are offering a free youth convention package to our junior members, but we need your support to again to help offset the cost to the Grand Lodge.

Please support the Little Lion Program either as an individual, as a lodge, or as both. I have again set up different levels of support for the program. Those who donate over \$100 will be part of the elite Platinum level, donations up to \$100 are in the Gold level, up to \$50 donations are silver level and the bronze level is up to \$25.

This is a great way to invest in our youth and the future of our organization. For those of you who were at convention and saw the looks on the faces of our youth members could see how excited they were about being a part of the order and how they want to do more with their lodges and other youth members.

Remember that the youth are the future of our order and we are dependent on them to take over for us in the future. Let us ALL join together and help build a stronger youth program to ensure that the Sons of Italy will last forever!

Fraternally,
Brian E. Watson
4308 North DeWitt ave.
Fresno, CA 93727
(559)285-6934
Pumbaa673@yahoo.com

Colombo-Stella Lodge # 1149

Fresno, CA

by Olivia DeLiddo Gallegos, President

Springtime! How is this possible? I hope you all had a wonderful Easter, celebrating the Resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ. With Him comes the hope of new things, new life, new beginnings, for all of us. April is one of my favorite months, it's my birthday month, the weather is usually perfect and it is the lull right before our Lodge starts to get busy organizing our committees for our Fundraisers and preparing for Convention.

Congratulations to our members, Emilia Canzio, Hannah Craig and Madison Gallegos. They were awarded grants from the Isnardi Foundation that will enable all of them to fully pay for another year of their college education! The Isnardi Foundation has been such a huge blessing to our Lodge, were are so thankful that their commitment to our Lodge and our students has been ongoing for 4 years. We hope this continues, but it can only continue if we have students to submit grants for. They have to be an active member of Colombo-Stella for a year or more to qualify and they must be of Italian heritage. They must also have a dues paying adult member attached to them, so if you have friends or family that you know could benefit from this blessing, and they want to be a part of our Lodge, please contact me.

Dues are payable now. If you have not paid your dues

yet, please contact Yolanda Canzio or me. Do not risk being dropped. Dues should have been paid in full by the March meeting.

We are also looking for some new fun ideas for our meetings. Please bring your ideas to the next one. We really have only 3 of 4 months where we will really need to do work, so lets have some fun, let's bring in some of the charities you want us to give our donations to, and let's rework our meetings to make it a night of fun.

As some of you know, we

have lost some members, and we need to replace them. So every please work hard to bring in at least one or two new people this year.

Winner of the scratcher at this month's meeting was Steve Barra. The name drawn for our Progressive Jackpot of \$15.00 was Tracy Fiorini Price, who was present. Next month's Progressive Jackpot starts at \$10.00. Remember, you must be present to win! We meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month at the American Legion Post 509. Until next time, Ciao!



President Olivia DeLiddo Gallegos with Isnardi Grant recipients Emilia Canzio, Hannah Craig, and Madison Gallegos

Saddleback Valley Lodge # 2566

Mission Viejo, CA
by Andy Pampuro
Immediate Past President

The Saddleback Valley Lodge held their monthly meeting on Friday, March 9th. President Hank Lowinger introduced our new State Deputy Sal Denaro to the membership. Sal is the President of the La Costa dei Fiori Lodge. Sal said he was very proud to be our State Deputy and was looking forward to all our activities. He was accompanied by our State Second Vice President Sadie Tamburine. She was very impressed with our meeting and paid a high compliment to President Hank.

Also among us was our Prince Joseph Perez. His mother, Nina Perez, was the sponsor of the evening's dinner along with our First Lady Michelle Lowinger, Bernie Neil and Pat Dito. Everything was absolutely delicious. Serving in the kitchen were Nina Perez, Michelle Lowinger, Bernie Neil and Nina Boccuzzi

We also had a bake sale to purchase more tickets for our Prince. Many thanks to all who made goodies for the bake sale especially Joe Collora who made a load of delicious cream puffs. All the baked goods were sold.

Lucy Gallo won the 50-50 opportunity award. Plus Tony Marraccino taught us a new game called Left, Right and Center and Lucy won another \$10. It was her lucky night.

Member Giuliana Fanton spoke about her Italian experiences which was most interesting.

On March 27th we have a bus going to Century City to visit Eataly.

Nina Perez is putting on a concert on April 8th to raise more money for our Prince. Anyone interested in enjoying the Concert please contact Michelle at malfieri@ssoe or call her at 714- 287-9471.

Valley of the Moon Lodge # 1959

Sonoma, CA

by Susan Antonini member at large
susanantoniniart@gmail.com

PARTY TIME WITH THE QUEEN
How wonderful to have the Grand Lodge Queen, Mary Lucido, from the C.Colombo Lodge in Antioch, with us for the March 3, Scholarship Dinner Dance w/ the Tommy Thompson band!

SERVERS WITH A SMILE
3 young teens, organized by Doreen Amaral were very popular. Oliver Cannard FFA, Teresa Crumby, Sonoma Valley High School and George Storck, Sonoma Valley 4-H Club.

POPULAR IN-DEED
The Scholarship Dinner/Dance ...

Attended by: State President John Costa and First Lady Donna Lee. Past State President Lynn Lawrence Murphy and husband William Murphy State Trustee of the North. Our own President Paul Grant... Valley of the Moon Lodge Sonoma. Pamala Bini President of the Beatrice Portinari Lodge and Ray Bini State Trustee of the North. SOI President Ann Albertoni from the Cesare Battisti Lodge, Petaluma. There were many others that I was not able to meet and/or get names. Although I did see some folks from Napa as well....thanks to all for helping make it a real fraternal night!

AND THEN BEHIND THE SCENES
Mike and Karen Carroll, Marie Davis, Paul, Jo, Tony, Chandra, and Cidnee Grant. Theresa, Jim O'Donnell, Linda Shockey. Herb and Joanna Seidell and the many others that makes an event like this possible.

REMEMBER 'BACK IN THE DAY'?
Little Switzerland....El Verano.. When I was very young, my mom would bring the family, including my granny and little sister and myself to 'feel' what it was like to be around Italian or German Music and to eat and talk and drink beer or wine, (at that time, it seemed wine came in an unlabeled bottle). My mom was Swiss German and she lived to eat tasty food and dance! She would point out that what we saw at these picnics WAS family!

THE BEGINNING OF A TRADITION....
The Tommy Thompson Scholarship Dinner/Dance brought out FAMILIES.... How wonderful to see the little children at the dinner table with their families, like proud Grandpa Mike Carroll and his grandson Alexander Miller. No doubt the little ones will have fond memories of this time with their extended family! OK.... granted, they were pretty young....but as they grow and

keep coming to these events they WILL have fond memories! Music stays in our hearts forever!

MENTION OF ONE OF THE FAITHFUL
Jo Grant...has been actively involved with the SOI for many years...she attends all the meetings when she is not traveling... she is an example of steadfastness and dependability to her family as well as those of us who had a different kind of mom.

AND THEN THERE WAS
A silent auction...my how interesting that turned out.... one of the many awesome donations was a welded metal sunflower, Garden Art made by Glen Rushing SOI President in Vallejo Lodge.

MEMORIES MADE BY PHOTOGRAPHY
Deborah DeMartini known by many in the Sonoma area....took most of the photographs that were placed in the Il Leone article this month.

IT TAKES A VILLAGE....
Events are like an iceberg....it looks small and orderly on the top side....but underneath, they are spread out and combersome.... it takes a 'Village' to pull off an event! Thank you to the "VILLAGE".

Ciao
Buona Pasqua



From left to right - our new State Deputy Sal Denaro, our State Second Vice President Sadie Tamburine and our lodge president Hank Lowinger.



Serving the dinner from left to right were First Lady Michelle Lowinger, Recording Secretary Bernie Neil, chairlady Nina Perez and Nina Boccuzzi.



Northern Solano Lodge # 2534

Fairfield, CA
by Pam Boes and Rick Tracy

By the time this article gets to print, the Easter Eggs will be long colored, hidden and hopefully found. Most of us remember that the Easter Egg hunt often lasts until May when that last egg is found behind the couch.

Backing up a bit, December found our lodge enjoying another great Christmas Pot Luck. As is our tradition, a pot luck in place of our December meeting gives David Ricco and Frank Rossi and their kitchen crews a break. This past year we were honored to have Susan Watson Vanoni from the Santa Rosa Lodge and State Deputy Louie Lodi entertain us with musical numbers and a Christmas Sing Along. Our members were most generous with toys collected for the Fairfield Community Services Foundation's Annual Toy Drive. All toys were distributed to children who participated in the Fun on the Run Program. Our Lodge also helped fund the Christmas party for 75 children of a military unit at Travis Air Force Base.

Our January Lodge meeting centered around the 35th anniversary of our lodge. Joining us for the evening were State President of the Grand Lodge of California John Costa and First Lady Donna Lee, State Trustee of the North Ray Bini and Pamela. John and Ray presented 35 year pins and certificates to four of our charter members in attendance: Susan Cahan, Sue Bell, Frank Rossi and Louise Rossi. Lisa Cahan Cox was presented a certificate as a past charter member. Susan Cahan gave a history of the lodge which was appreciated by all.

On January 27th we held a very successful Crab Feed. In the February La Voce, our Lodge newsletter,

President Don Cradduck complemented all those who worked so hard to make it a success. Over 200 members, guests and community attended. Proceeds from the dinner, auction and raffle, help fund the many charities and events we sponsor. A special Thank You to the

chairpersons of each committee who coordinated their part of this very important event.

At our February meeting Sue Cahan announced that we will begin collecting supplies for patients at the La Mariposa Convalescent Home in Fairfield. Many of these patients have no family members who are able to provide some of the "extras" that will make their stay more enjoyable. We also welcomed two new members, Brenda and Frank Mossa who were sponsored by Linda and Joel Feins.

Card Night is in full swing again for the new year. To date Rick Tracy, Helen and Rich Barker have opened their homes. Caroline Abugazaleh will host the March Card Night.

Sharie Anaclario and Roy Pimentel held the first soup night last month. Volunteers are needed to continue this event. Those attending provide the soups, bread, liquid refreshments and desserts to make it an enjoyable and stress free evening.

Pam Boes and Kay Locatelli continue to plan the Out to Lunch Bunch each month. They alternate between Fairfield and Vacaville for a new and different dining experience.

Under the direction of Joy Bruno several members continue to volunteer at the Contra Costa/ Solano Food Bank located in Fairfield. Because there is such a need, a second crew is being organized so that our Lodge can participate each month. At this past session on February 26th we sorted and boxed 3,345 lbs. of food in 94 boxes. Those who have been able to participate have found it a rewarding and even fun experience.

Congratulations to Linda and Joel Feins on their 50th anniversary. Joel surprised Linda by presenting her with a beautiful bouquet of roses at our March Lodge meeting.

Coming Event: On May 4th our Lodge will host the annual Day at the Races organized by Rich Barker.

Contact Rich if you are interested in attending.

Dear Lodge Presidents,

The convention and Royal Pageant are quickly approaching. If you haven't already, please send your participants name, address, contact number and photo to the Grand Lodge. Be a part of this historical event. As of now we have 7 young ladies and 2 young men participating. Hopefully we can add a few more.

If you need tickets please contact the Grand Lodge. All monies need to be post marked by April 23, the fourth Monday in April. If you have any questions please call or email me.

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YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO OUR
Twenty-Fifth Annual
CENTRAL VALLEY SONS OF ITALY FOUNDATION

Black Tie Benefit

Saturday, April 21, 2018
Del Rio Country Club
Modesto



Social Time - 6:00 PM
Dinner - 7:00 PM
Dancing - 9:00 PM
Silent Auction 6:00 - 9:00 PM

Honoring

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Jesus

by Stephen Contrado, B.A., Th.M.
165 Nantasket Ave. # 9
Hull, MA 02045

E-mail: stephencontrado@gmail.com

Many people consider Jesus to be the world's most enlightened teacher. Christians believe he is the Son of God. He is the historical figure most written about and most depicted in art. He is the central figure in the New Testament of the Bible.

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea. Mary was his mother. According to the Scriptures, Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit. Joseph, the husband of Mary, was his legal father. Jesus was born in a stable and laid in a manger because there was no room at an inn.

King Herod of Judea felt threatened when he heard of the birth of the Messiah and sought to kill the baby Jesus. The holy family escaped by fleeing into Egypt.

After the death of Herod, the holy family returned from Egypt. Jesus grew up in Nazareth. He worked with Joseph, who was a carpenter. As a boy Jesus once spoke with the wise men of Jerusalem. They were amazed at his wisdom.

When Jesus became an adult, he taught men to learn and obey God's commandments. He chose twelve apostles to help him spread the good news that God would forgive sinners if they repent-

ed. He also taught people to pray.

The New Testament records the teachings of Jesus and his miracles. Jesus miraculously fed the multitude of people who followed him, healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, and even raised the dead to life.

According to the Scriptures, Jesus was born and lived without sin. He knew he would be put to death for the sins of mankind. At his last supper, he instituted the sharing of bread and wine as a memorial to himself.

Jesus was unjustly accused and tried for crimes he did not commit. He prayed for and forgave his enemies. He was put to death on a cross, laid to rest in a tomb, and rose from the dead. He appeared to the apostles after his resurrection and taught them many things before he ascended into heaven.

The apostles and disciples spread the new faith despite many hardships and persecution. Many people accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior. Today, millions of people are Christians. The Church ministers to them. Easter Sunday is the day Christians celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus.

365 Fund Raiser - Winners

February 16-28

16	\$25.00	Al Girolami
17	\$25.00	Sal Denaro
18	\$25.00	Rose Quinn
19	\$25.00	Albert Rossi
20	\$25.00	Joy Bruno
21	\$25.00	Nick Simon
22	\$25.00	Vera Girolami
23	\$25.00	Jason Trigleth
25	\$200.00	Manny Finazzo
26	\$25.00	Pam Tedsco
27	\$25.00	Pauline Masotto
28	\$50.00	Judy Dutra

March 1-15

1	\$25.00	Olindo Viola
2	\$25.00	Pauline Richmond
3	\$25.00	Bob Amante
4	\$25.00	Mike Blanco
5	\$25.00	Steve Trentini
6	\$25.00	Roy Vanoni
7	\$25.00	Nico Buldo
8	\$25.00	Peggy Soletti
9	\$25.00	Jim Mazzeo
10	\$25.00	John Saladino
11	\$25.00	Tony Ghironi
12	\$25.00	Gavin Westover
13	\$25.00	Joan Acquistapacce
14	\$25.00	Jan Rogers
15	\$25.00	Colombo Stella Lodge

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707 644-5304
ravioli_spaghetti@yahoo.com

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY
CHARLES SANT'AGATA
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Clovis, CA 93619
Phone: (559) 323-9523
cjsa@att.net

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
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Online Shopper Alert!....

Do you know that you are missing out on helping the Western Foundation while shopping on Amazon? All you need to do is to sign in to [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) using your email address and Amazon password, and you will have the opportunity to designate our **Sons of Italy Western Foundation** as your preferred charitable organization. From that point on every time you make a purchase, Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the Western Foundation. Easy! Shop as you regularly would, and earn points for the charitable causes of our Western Foundation at the same time. You can check the progress of your donation whenever you want, and see your donation build up the more you shop. Any time (like right now) is a good time to put your shopping to good use and raise funds for the great causes the Western Foundation supports. Just imagine if all our members who use Amazon would sign up for this benefit....it only takes a minute, and the funds raised can do so much good for a long time. What a great way to spend and feel good about it. Please pass the word to family and friends, happy shopping, and always remember to smile!

Lodge Anniversaries

April	
Cornelia Vita Nuova #1198	4/21/23
Roseville #1413	4/4/26
Rodolfo Valentino #1449	4/14/27
Fratelanza Garibaldina #1627	4/17/32
Modesto #2021	4/20/52
Napa #2043	4/24/55
Ukiah #2104	4/24/60
Hacienda #2168	4/17/66
Lake County #2573	4/19/83

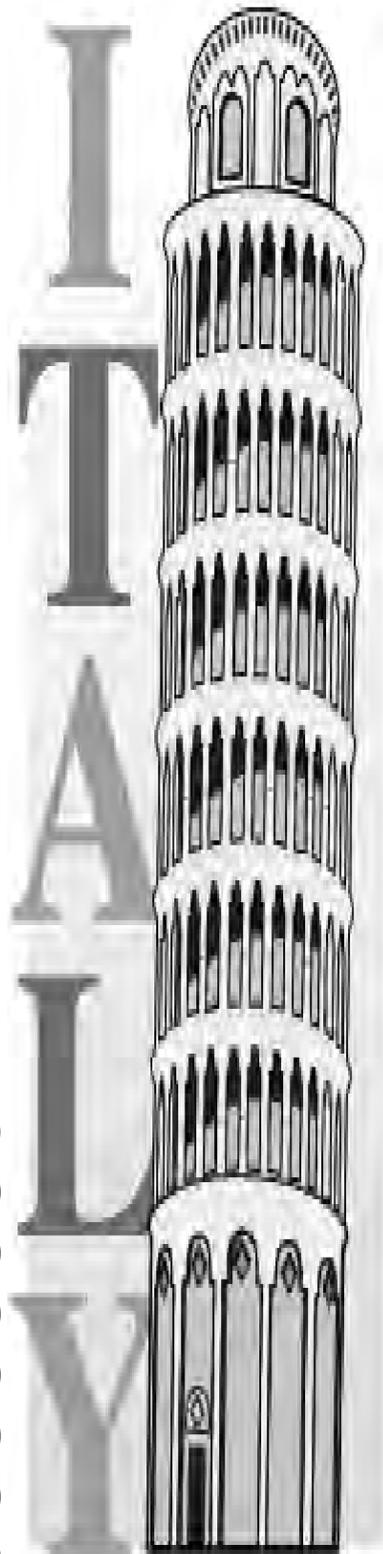
Congratulations!!!



The Resurrection by Piero della Francesca.

Save the Date

June 16, 2018
Columbia Lodge #1940 Honoring National
President Vera Girolami
Peninsula Italian American Club
100 N B Street
San Mateo
More info to come



William Paca Lodge # 1960

Mountain View, CA
by Carolyn Franklin

Welcome to March! It brings the winds that clear the air from smokey dust and scatters the beautiful budding blossoms on the fruit trees. And, best of all it brings the four-leaf clover that "I'm lookin' over" - remember the old song of the '50's with Teresa Brewer, perky cute girl that sang like she meant it?

It's that time to enjoy the Irish tradition, corned-beef cabbage. The Irish had a great idea there and we do it so well. Dan "O'Ditri" traditionally does the cooking and what a great job he does! He's got it down to a science with

helpers Roldan Vigil, Carlos Marengo and Mike Ravissa. And we're glad that Roldan is well and back on his feet with us in the kitchen!

It's a genius organization with wonderful sights and smells. The plates are lined up and filled with the green cabbage, white potatoes and red corned - beef the colors of the Italian flag! (Don't forget the carrots!) Still warm and hand carried to the diners, the best of all worlds is ours at William Paca. All the better to make the dinner fun and memorable.



Rose Marengo took many delightful photos of the diners, in particular the adorable little girls of David and Jenny Mauro, Chiara, 3, and Alice, 1 1/2. And, of course their names are pronounced the Italian way, Chiara (Kee ara) and Alice (Ah lee chay). Children always bring a spark of life to any gathering. *Chi non ha figli non può andare ne per fuoco ne per consigli.*



The two adults on the left are Vittorio and Cristina, friends of the Gauthiers. In the group picture on the right are David and Jenny Mauro with their children Chiara (3) and Alice (1 1/2). *Tanta bella.*

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Honoring

JIM LA MANNA, STATE DEPUTY

FRIDAY, MAY 4, 2018

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999 YOSEMITE DRIVE, CHICO CA 95928

NO HOST SOCIAL HOUR
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

MUSIC BY THE DOGHOUSE

SEMI-FORMAL DRESS

RAFFLE PRIZES

\$30.00 PER PERSON

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.

For further information contact:

CATHY LUCIDO – 530- 809-4111
DEBBIE ROSSI – 530-345-7911

NAME: _____

OF TICKETS _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

PASTA BAR AND DESSERT WILL BE SERVED

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*The reason I didn't do this
when I had the chance was...*

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Rodolfo Valentino

Lodge # 1449

Clovis, CA

by Carole Watson, President;

Lou Catallo, Historian; (559) 299-2205 lcatallo@aol.com

Last Month: Meeting discussions centered on the upcoming April Pasta Fest, scheduled for April 16th, and the Clovis Rodeo Parade which will be April 28th, the last weekend of the month. Following the spirited discussions a great potluck was enjoyed by all: enchiladas, three-bean Italian style salad, fried chicken, a great bean stew, home baked cherry pie, and a white rum cake, among other things.

Serena advises us that you can get there fast by traveling alone, but to get there forever, travel together. ... **Growing old** is a privilege denied to many.

Last month was the meeting of the United Lodges of the Central San Joaquin Valley (ULCSJV) held in Hanford at the Kings County Historical Society building on 14th Street. A good 30 attendees were there to discuss our common valley interests. Invocation was by Lilia Giacomazzi, now at 102 years of experience. One speaker reminded us that we are not "Italian-Americans"; we are all "Americans"; our parents and grandparents came here to become Americans, and we, as their descendants honored their traditions. The point here is that we are not hyphenated citizens.

Marcus Aurelius once said "Don't ponder what it takes to be a great person ... be one!"

This Month: Getting ready for the Pasta Fest on the April 16: for those that wish to help set up for the party, be at Notre Dame Hall at about 09:00 AM for table preparations, and, if you haven't already done so, bring your raffle prizes in to be wrapped ... but, better yet, bring them to Meri Sorrels before that date. At about 5:00 PM, we will start putting out the ice water, cutting and setting out the desserts. Don't forget to notify your friends so that they don't miss out on this great party. It is still only \$15 for adults and starts at 6:30 PM. Same wonderful menu you have learned to love. The fun starts when you get there. Accordion music by Rick DelCarlo, vocals by Josh Bravo (they will also perform on our Clovis Rodeo Parade float).

And, at the end of the following week we will be in the Clovis Rodeo Parade on our float ... the theme this year is "*Rodeo-Land with Mickey and Friends*". To ride on the float, be at the float location on Barstow Avenue, near Brookside, before

9:00 AM. If you can't ride the float, be at street-side and cheer us on. It is always a lot of fun getting ready for this great event and it lets us show off to the Clovis folk.

Scams have become more and more sophisticated lately; be aware that any request for cash or information, by email or telephone is a scam. Never give information away & never send cash to these entities.

Next Months: May 21 and June 18, 2018, will be normal meetings with Pot Luck.

The Grand Lodge 2018 Convention starts June 28th at the Ontario Airport Double Tree Hotel. No details yet, but Bryan Watson is already getting the schedule set up for the lodge Youth group. He had a great turnout last year and is expecting the same for this year; if you want to contribute to this great Youth program, just make out a check to the Western Foundation. The kids always have a great time with what he sets up for them.

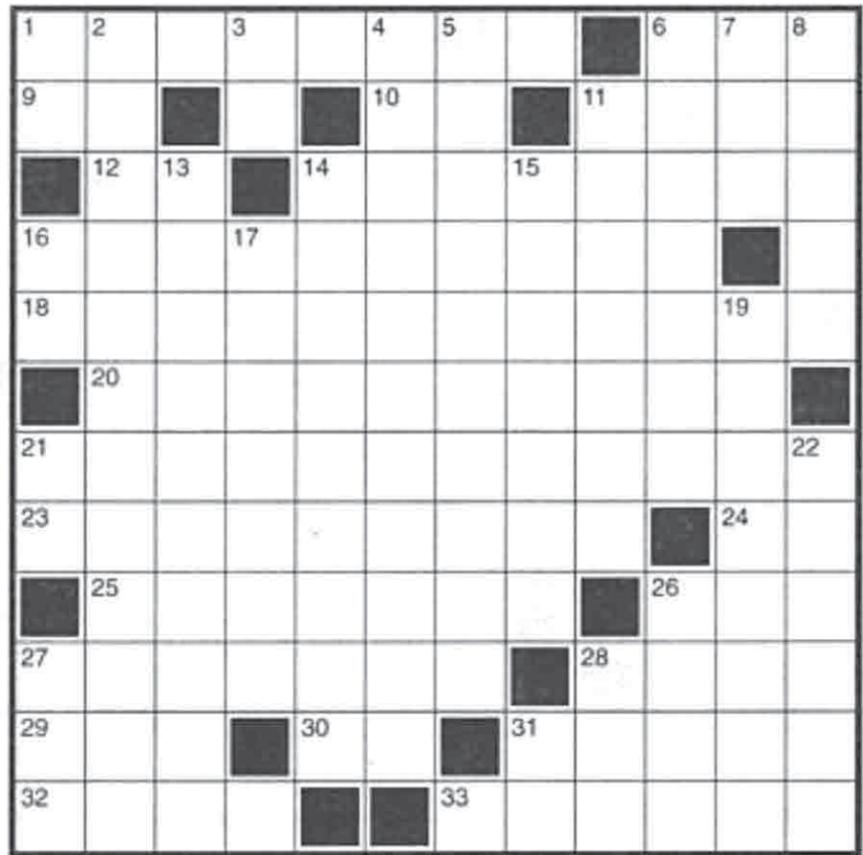
Do you have comments for our lodge members? Any Historical lodge photos? Let me know at my email address (above) and we can publish it in this column.

Life is a gift; freedom is a responsibility.

We should learn something in every important thing we do; enhance your learning by applying for our Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America scholarship(s). Contact Scholarship Chair, Isabel Ronzano, at (559) 297-0851, for information on this topic. The Scholarship Deadlines are: for Clovis Lodge, March 31, 2019; for California State Grand Lodge: March 01, 2019; and, for National Lodge the date is generally November to February of any year (\$500 to \$5,000 awards). For grants/tours/studies information in Italy, go to <https://www.osia.org/students/scholarships.php>.

Join Us: If you have friends or family that are looking for good fellowship and a place to hang out on the third Monday of each month, invite them to join you at our meetings, 6:30 PM, at Notre Dame Hall, 333 8th Street, at DeWitt Avenue. We feature short meetings, great companionship, and superb food. Our web site is <http://rodolfovalentinolodge.com/>.

CRUCIVERBA



ORIZZONTALI: 1. Sei volte tanto - 6. C'è la "Gardena" e la "Pusteria" - 9. Un po' di esperienza - 10. Ha una sua corte - 11. Dà corpo al pensiero - 12. Trieste - 14. La massima assise della Chiesa - 16. Si fa in sede di pronostico - 18. Con discrezione, semplicemente - 20. Malinconicamente - 21. Ascoltano più il cuore che il cervello - 23. Relativo, riguardante - 24. Articolo spagnolo - 25. La città dei due Mari - 26. Opprime d'estate - 27. Prodotti per depilazione - 28. Nome russo d'uomo - 29. Un punto a scopa - 30. Di nove vocali... - 31. Passi di un romanzo - 32. Re... di Shakespeare - 33. È simile alla foca.

VERTICALI: 1. Sua Eminenza - 2. Escludere... da un affare - 3. Alla fine del concerto - 4. Subito, senza indugio - 5. Lemme lemme, piano piano - 6. Non ne ha l'abulico - 7. Il pastore che amò Galatea - 8. Il re della foresta - 11. Che è ancora in questo mondo - 13. Lo è spesso la vita di oggi - 14. Rifiutato in redazione - 15. Prova... impegnativa - 16. Pubblico Ministero - 17. Indossare, portare addosso - 19. Si usano per comunicare a distanza - 21. In fondo alla discesa - 22. Nome di donna - 26. La biblica madre di Ismaele - 27. Preposizione articolata - 28. Violenta collera - 31. I confini di Beirut.

Reproduced from the weekly "Mini Relax."
For a subscription "sies@siesnet.it"

Answers page 16

Attention all Filial Lodges

It's that time again! We are looking for participants for the upcoming Royal Pageant for the 2018 Grand Lodge Convention in Ontario. The contest officially began on October 1, and so far we know there are eight participants. One of these entries may be a young man. We are encouraging not only our young ladies, but also our young men to get involved. Remember this is one of the few opportunities that we have to highlight our youth. So we are hoping that more of our lodges will join in and find someone to represent their lodge. It is important to let the Grand Lodge and myself know if you have a candidate.

Again, the contest has officially started. Tickets can be ordered from the Grand Lodge. The more tickets you sell, the higher percentage your lodge will receive back. All participants must have a minimum of \$2,000 to qualify. Any tickets sold beyond that will determine their placement of the top five in the Royal Pageant. All monies must be mailed to the Grand Lodge in the

registered mail envelope provided by the Grand Lodge. The envelope must be postmarked by Monday, April 23, 2018. Placement of the Royal Pageant will be announced on Saturday, May 6, 2018 after 2:00 pm. More information will be sent from the Grand Lodge detailing all the rules at a later date.

Please let the Grand Lodge and myself know as soon as possible the name of your queen/king and the lodge they represent. Send a wallet size photo of the contestant to the Grand Lodge as soon as possible to be used in the newspaper and the pageant program.

It is a fun event and we hope that you encourage your youth members to get involved. We can't wait to see how many participants we have this year. Good luck to each of the lodges. Looking forward to a successful pageant.

Sincerely yours,
Eva Lavezzari
Royal Contest Chairperson



Pugliese Lodge Outing At Santa Anita

by Chris N. and Mary M. Lotito

On Sunday March 1, 2015 the Pugliese Lodge, members and guests were greeted at Santa Anita race track with sun shine galore that the rain gods wished upon us. What a lovely day to spend with friends and guests. The members who sell the tickets did a fantastic job this year well over 300 enthusiast race fans and their children related an atmosphere of tranquility and elation.

The Committee arrived around 10:30am and were greeted by the security officer that let them in. It was time to have the tables set for the buffet lunch and table for the guests that would be there ready to claim their table and get serious about handicapping the races as per form or give it a good guess.

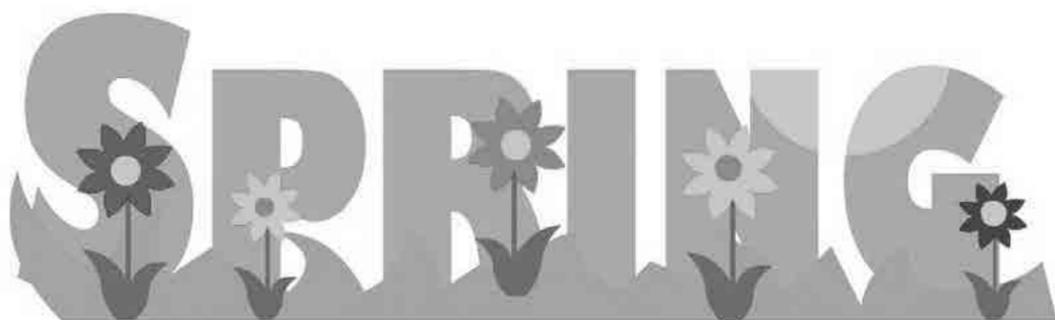
Under the supervision of Mary Lotito, the facility was ready by the allotted time, the food arrived on time, John and Karin De Santis had their raffle gifts in place, the coffee urns were off and running and the raffle ticket sellers, Carla Komar and Alexa Lotito (State Lodge Miss Italy), were enticing the attendees to buy because their chances of winning were the best odds you could possibly get at the track. The catering was done by, Eastside Market, its proprietor, Johnny Angiuli, has relinquished his position to son Nick Angiuli, who did a fantastic job that made many an appetite savory.

A very exciting and successful afternoon for the Pugliese Lodge. Hopefully many went home with that green stuff in their pockets. As for the belly there was plentiful.

Mary Lotito selected her helpers and without them success would not be noted in this article. Many kudos to Michael and Edithe Digiuro, Bill Komar, Patty Mc Cortmick, Roberta Overton, Sean Dankowski, Michael Gatti, Vita Zaccaria, Palmie and Dike Crispi, Bonnie Dixon, Becky Zaccaria, Chris Lotito, and John De Santis who collected lunch tickets.

Many thanks to Nick Caucchiolo Sr and Jr. who provided Laker and Dodger tickets to be auctioned off to the highest bidder. We appreciate their gracious giving to help us game funds for our charity programs.

Don't forget next year will be at Santa Anita the first Sunday in March.....



Winner Every Day Raffle

1. Purchase a Winner Every Day Raffle ticket for \$30. If your lodge does not have any, you can order some through the Grand Lodge.
2. Mail your ticket stub and check to the Grand Lodge of California, 5051 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94112
3. Once received, your ticket goes into the ticket drum.
4. Tickets are drawn every two weeks, until the end of 2017, one ticket for each of those days. If you are a winner, a check for \$25. will be mailed to you. Winners names are also listed in the most current issue of the Il Leone newspaper.
5. Your ticket is put back into the drum for all future drawings.
6. There are several days throughout the year that have a higher dollar amount. Those days are listed on the back of each ticket.
7. Grand Prize of \$1,000.00 will be given only if 1000 tickets are sold and returned by December 21st, 2017. Or if 4500 tickets are sold the Grand Prize will become \$15,000. 4500 tickets are one ticket per each of our members!! Buy a ticket and become a big winner.

It's that easy!!
 You have a great chance of winning more than one time!!
 And a chance at the Grand Prize!

Make checks payable to:
 Grand Lodge of California

If you have any other questions, please contact
 The Grand Lodge of CA (415)586-1316
 E-mail: sonsofitalyca@aol.com



PUZZLE ANSWERS

S	E	S	T	U	P	L	O	■	V	A	L
E	S	■	O	■	R	E	■	V	O	C	E
■	T	S	■	C	O	N	C	I	L	I	O
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2018 National Winter Plenary Session

by Lynn Lawrence-Murphy California National Trustee

On Tuesday, February 20th, National President Vera Girolami, Sons of Italy Foundation Trustee Maria Pignati, State 1st Vice President Arlene Nunziati and I flew to Atlanta, GA to attend the National Winter Plenary. State President John Costa joined us on Wednesday. Our National President Vera conducted a very informative and productive meeting. The following are a few highlights from these meetings:

- Eleven students attended the Student Summit in October – 3 from California.
- Remember to fill out your 990, 990N each year by May 15th (lodges please send a copy of your filing to the Grand Lodge Office).
- The Supreme Lodge Finances are in the black. They have set up a financial system team and have established a Voucher system with every expense being documented.
- Carly has set up an OSIA store, www.cafepress.com/osia with many fun and interesting items for sale.
- National 1st Vice President Nancy Quinn will be selling Heritage Calendars for a Fund raiser during the month of October – cost will be \$20 per calendar and ticket will be sent to the Supreme Lodge Office for Drawing – 33 drawings will take place that month – 2 winners on Columbus day – 2 winners at the end of the month – 1 each of the other days of October. Participant's names will be drawn randomly each day at the Supreme Lodge Office.
- Join the Gold Membership Program. The cost is \$100 each year and fosters Italian Culture and Heritage.
- A New National Brochure has been created and is available.
- Our new Website is up and running. osia.org (check it out).
- A new Video on Garibaldi an Meucci also has been created - very interesting.
- The Sons of Italy Foundation Mailing Program has been very successful. – SIF donated over \$520,500 last year, \$183,274 was collected for the Italian Earthquake Relief Fund.
- NELA will be May 24, 2018 at the Gaylord in Maryland – cost \$350 members, \$500 for others. Room Rates \$179 ++ SIF will donate \$20,000 for a Van for a Military Veteran, and \$6000 more to refurbish an existing van. They plan on live streaming this year's NELA Event. – possibly have a lodge event that night to view this great event.
- CSJ President Kevin Ciara has been busily working with many States regarding a variety of Columbus Issues, "Columbus Day", parades, statues, etc. We need to be vigilant, and be constantly aware of any local, state national issues regarding Columbus. Address our leaders and offer positive statements to combat the negative comments.
- There is a Congressional Bill HR1706, 1707 regarding the Internment of Italians during WWII.

Membership Issues:

- A New National Membership Pamphlet has been created.
- Our National membership dropped to 35,098 at the end of 2017.
- Retention is Critical!!
- Offer incentives to bring in new members.
- A suggestion was made to offer \$300 for new lodge set up.
- Mark DeNunzio (National Membership Chair) has created a Power Point Presentation which would be good to take to local lodges.
- When a new member joins – sit with them for 6 months – lodge trustees welcome and sit with these new members.

Under Future Good of the Order.

- Social Media Important – let people know who we are – sell our brand.
- Make meetings fun!!

The next National Plenary Session will take place at Crystal City, VA – August 9 – 12, 2018.

Lodge Websites & E-mail Directory

- Anaheim Lodge
www.anaheim2076.org
 - Beatrice Portinari Lodge
OSIAVallejo@yahoo.com
 - C. Colombo Lodge
www.soiccolombo1315.com
 - Colombo-Stella Lodge
www.sonsofitalyfresno.org
sonsofitalyfresno@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/pages/Sons-Of-Italy-Fresno-Colombo-Stella-1149
 - Columbia Lodge
columbia_1940@yahoo.com
www.sonsofitalysanmateo.com
 - Cristoforo Colombo Lodge
www.renosonsofitaly.org
 - Dolly Sinatra Lodge
www.dollysinatralodgeosia.org
info@dollysinatralodgeosia.org
 - Enrico Caruso Lodge
visaliansonsofitaly.club.officelive.com
 - Eureka Lodge
sonsofitalyeureka@gmail.com
 - Fratellanza Garibaldina
www.osia1627.org
 - Giuseppe Mazzini
<http://www.giuseppemazzini.org>
 - Giuseppe Verdi Lodge #1441
www.sonsofitaly1441.weebly.com
 - Grand Lodge of California
www.sonsofitalyca.org
 - Hacienda Lodge #2168
www.osiahaciendalodge.com
 - Hanford Lodge
<http://sonsofitaly1543.org/>
silaccilu@gmail.com
 - Joanne Coccia Lodge
ociafontana.org
 - La Costa dei Fiori Lodge
saljd55@cox.net
 - Las Vegas Lodge
www.sonsofitalylasvegas.com
sonsofitalylv@yahoo.com
 - Monterey Lodge
www.sonsofitaly-monterey.org
 - Napa Lodge
napasonsofitaly.org
 - Northern Solano Lodge
www.SOI2534.org
 - Pugliese Lodge
www.soipugliese1375.com
 - Renaissance Lodge
www.sonsofitalyca.org/renaissance
Renaissancelodge2259@yahoo.com
 - Rodolfo Valentino Lodge
www.rodolfovalentinolodge.com
 - Roma Lodge #1574
romalodge1573.org
romalodge@yahoo.com
 - Roseville Lodge
sonsofitalyroseville@gmail.com
 - Saddleback Valley Lodge
www.saddlebackvalley2566.com
malfieri1@aol.com
 - Santa Rosa Lodge
www.santarosasonsofitaly.org
 - Shasta Lodge
www.reddingsonsofitaly.com
soishastalodge@charter.net
 - Vallejo Lodges
www.vallejosonsofitaly.org
 - Vincenzo Billini Lodge #2519
www.sonsofitalychico.com
 - Watsonville Lodge #2016
www.sonsofitalywatsonville.org
sonsofitalywatsonville@yahoo.com
 - William Paca Lodge #1960
www.sonsofitalymountainview.org
 - West End Lodge
www.sonsofitalywestend.org
- If your lodge has an e-mail address or website and you would like to include it with the above list, please send it to me at apampuro@comline.com.

A Message from the Grand Lodge Queen

I have been diligently fulfilling my duties as Grand Lodge Queen and I am attending as many SOI functions as possible and having a great time doing it.

On February 10, I attended the Cornelia-Vita Nuova Lodge, San Francisco Polenta Feed. The polenta and chicken dinner was wonderful. It was so nice to connect with everyone from the Grand Lodge.

On February 14, I attended the Valentine Lasagna dinner at the Sacramento Lodge. Louie Lodi is so good about keeping me abreast of their functions and has given me an open invitation to attend their functions. I also attended their lodge's Saint Patrick's Day dinner on March 14 and you all know that Saint Patrick was of Italian Roman Descent. Everyone at Sac is always so gracious to me and the food was yummy.

On February 15th, I attended the Valentine Dinner at the Roseville Lodge. I was so happy to see Roy Vanoni and his wife and I met Marlene Cristanelli and so many new people. I also attended their Saint Patrick's Day dinner on March 15th and they told me that I was always welcome to their functions.

On February 18, I flew down south and attended the Joanne Coccia Lodge's 34th Anniversary celebration in Fontana. We had a wonderful dinner and the celebration was held at the Old Fontana Movie Theatre where we saw a musical called, "Smokey Joe's Café." It was so much fun and entertaining. I got to visit with John Costa on the way home as we were on the same flight. I was so excited to see the members of Joanne Coccia Lodge and there are always so receptive to me and I love going to their functions. I am also so appreciative to them because last year, they presented me with a \$1000.00 scholarship and recently I received a text from Paul Finazzo, President of Joanne Coccia Lodge and I was surprised and overwhelmed again with their generosity. He advised me that they are giving me another \$1000.00 scholarship for my senior year at Sacramento State. I am beyond grateful.

On March 3rd, I attended the Valley of the Moon, Sonoma Lodge's Scholarship Fundraiser. It was a scrumptious chicken and rib dinner with fabulous entertainment. Everyone was so cordial and kind and it was wonderful to meet new people and the camaraderie was heartwarming.

My telephone number is 925-325-2535.



Queen Mary and Linda Enneman America Lodge.



Queen Mary, John Costa, Eva Lavezzari.



Mary at Sonoma.



Queen Mary, Valley of the Moon Lodge Sonoma.



Queen Mary at Sonoma Lodge.



Roseville, Queen Mary Stephen & Vicki Cramlet & 3rd Vice President Barbara Wisneiwski.



Heritage Calendars

National 1st Vice President Nancy Quinn will be selling Heritage Calendars for a Fund Raiser during the month of October- cost will be \$20 per calendar and ticket will be sent to the Supreme Lodge Office for drawing – 33 drawings will take place that month – 2 winners on Columbus day – 2 winners at the end of the month – and 1 each of the other days of October, participant’s names will be drawn randomly each day at the Supreme Lodge Office. We will have them for sale at the meeting!

Benefits for Lodge & National At-Large Members:

- Free print & online subscription to Italian America® magazine, the most widely read cultural magazine in the U.S. for people of Italian heritage.
- Access to OSIA.org, and information about issues, programs, reports and research important to Italian Americans, and other benefits available only online.
- Discounts on various products and services, including genealogy research, travel, Italian language instruction, and more. See participating vendors on the Benefits and Discounts page.
- Email promotions and giveaways.
- Early notice of new features on OSIA.org.
- Eligibility for OSIA scholarships and participation in OSIA youth programs.
- Italian America® magazine advertising discounts. More information.
- Free benefits & discounts on various products and services, including:
 - o Wireless
 - o Prescription Savings
 - o Travel
 - o Health & Wellness
 - o Genealogy
 - o Language Instruction
 - o Insurance
 - o Culinary products
 - o And much more!

A thought on Membership from the Reno Lodge

I would like to address membership to you all. I am proposing a membership drive that would give any member who brings in a completed application with money a free dinner! Just members. I have seen so many innovative ways to bring in new members. I’ve seen lodges give a free year’s dues to new members, scholarships offered only to members children or grandchildren, etc. My favorite statement on membership comes for a very dear brother, Louie Lodi. He says, “Just ask!”. Every place he goes he carries business cards and hands them to people he meets who might be interested. I’m going to ask each of you to bring in one new member for this year. That would double our membership by December! That would also give us a much bigger representation at conventions, and that gives a bigger voice in the running of the Grand Lodge.

Okay, now we have new members, what do we do to keep them interested? First let’s find out what they would like to do in the Order. Then find out what they would like to get out of the Order. “Oh, so you would like to learn more about Italian contributions to our history.” Donna Lee and the Program Committee brings in speakers from our community to speak to us. Let them know what our new members would like. “Oh, you would like to learn more about Italian Cooking.” Perhaps one of you would like to do a cooking demonstration at the meeting. I know all of us enjoy those types of meetings. “Oh, you would like to help raise funds for scholarship.” Most of our committees are only one person. We need to get volunteers to assist. Don’t wait for someone to come to you. Let Donna Lee know, she will see that you are put on a committee with seasoned members. I think you get the picture.

What about the member that hasn’t been around for a while? Our Trustees are the membership committee according to the by-laws. (Bet a lot of you didn’t know that.) Did one of you call to see if the member was alright. Maybe they are sick and need some cheering up. Or maybe they can’t drive at night anymore. (They might live right by another member and could carpool together.) Perhaps they didn’t feel comfortable at one to the meetings and your call could correct a misconception. REACH OUT TO YOUR SISTER OR BROTHER! Reach out to your neighbors and friends. Remember you don’t need to be Italian to love all things Italian. (or to be a member of the Order Sons and Daughters of America). We have a wonderful Lodge with great members, , Let’s grow this fraternity!!

(The names have been changed to protect the innocent) sorry Barbara!!)

Contestants for the Royal Contest so far.



Annamarie Tesoriere
Hanford Lodge #1543



Gianna Benedetti
Roma Lodge #1573



Joseph Perez
Saddleback Valley
Lodge #2566



Sarah Grace Taylor
Puliese Lodge #1375



Marissa Lavezzari
Centinela Valley Lodge #1991



Meagan Guthrie
Anaheim Lodge #2076



Devin Guevara
Joanne Coccia Lodge #2553



Brianna Simon
Enrico Caruso Lodge #1463

Roma Lodge # 1573

Tulare, CA
by Larry Dutto

Roma Lodge Celebrates 88th Anniversary

Roma Lodge # 1573 is celebrating their 88th Anniversary this year. The lodge will be honoring members who are celebrating milestone years of membership in the lodge. Members will be treated to a traditional meal of Italian sausage and risotto dinner on April 2nd.

5 Year Members
Elisabeth Curti, Daniel Daramy,
Austin Gentry,
Adelyn Watkins, Giulia Watkins
10 Year Members
Belinda Briano, Kory Briano, AJ Briano,
Madison Dutto, Jordyn Dutto,
Marilyn Madrigal, Rob Pinkerton
15 Year Members
Krista Borba, John McLafferty
Brian Milanesio
20 Year Members
Shurene Curti
Joey Costa
Nicole Taylor
25 Year Members
Aaron Dutto, Anica Gentry
John Parreira
35 Year Members
Michele Burner
40 Year Member
Stacy Galvan

45 Year Members
David DePaoli, Gary Giraudi, Nick Milanesio,
Angie Milanesio, Ed Milanesio
50 Year Members
Philip Curti, William Fusco
Wallace Gordon
51 Year Members
Dennis Burner, James Costa
Carol McLafferty
52 Year Members
Cliff Cleek, Clarence Costa
John Greco, Mary Ann Luis
53 Year Members
Marlene Peterson
Mary Jean Kronbetter
54 Year Members
Agnes Pelous
Rosalie Milanesio
55 Year Member
Leroy Beecher
56 Year Member
Judy Paggi
57 Year Member
Richard Atkinson

60 Years
Connie Spagnuolo
Catherina Romero
61 Year Members
Ronnie Pedroncelli
62 Year Members
Carole Burner, Janet Cabral,
Johnnie Kaye Costa,
Betty Pratt, Lorraine Cleek,
George Rinaldi, Angela Guerra
64 Year Members
Sharon Barreto, Joann Beecher,
Gary Dutto, Barbara Maraist
65 Year Members
Lillian Cotta, Sylvia Signorelli
69 Year Member
Catherine Atkinson
77 Year Member
Oswald DaRos
82 Year Member
Joe Signorelli
Lilia Giacomazzi
Grand Lodge Deputy

Roma Lodge will be hosting their 83rd Annual Ravioli Dinner on Saturday, May 12th at the T.D.E.S. Hall in Tulare. Last year nearly 900 people took advantage of a takeout dinner of ravioli, spaghetti, chicken and salad. Tickets may be purchased from Cathy Mederos, 687-1112 for only \$20.

Roma Lodge Queen Gianna Benedetti held a garage sale at Larry and Kathy Dutto's home in Visalia. Numerous lodge members donated items for the sale and several lodge members assisted with the effort the day of the sale which was very successful.



Roma Lodge Queen Gianna Benedetti and the lodge garage sale fundraiser.

Hanford Lodge # 1543

Hanford, CA
by Jackie Giacomazzi
jackiegiacomazzi@gmail.com



Grand Lodge President, John Costa and First Lady, Donna Lee, pose with officers of the United Lodges of the San Joaquin Valley, as well as State Officers, as he attended the quarterly meeting of the group on March 11, 2018, held in the meeting room of the Kings County Historical Society in Hanford. Pictured are: First row: Pauline Richmond, State Trustee-Central—First Vice President; Louise Silacci, State Trustee-Central; Charles Sant'Agata, President, ULSJV; Back row: Jackie Giacomazzi, Secretary; David DePaoli, Trustee; Ralph Agnello, Past Grand Lodge President; Annamarie Tesoriere, Hanford Lodge Queen; Isabel Ronzano, Guard; Lou Cattalo, Trustee; HazelAnn Christin, State Birth Defects chair.



Several members of the United Lodges luncheon committee: Front row: Louise Tesoriere; Tony Tesoriere, Co-chair; Louise Silacci. Back row: Michael Leoni, co-chair; Queen Annamarie Tesoriere; Jackie Giacomazzi. Other committee members now shown are: Jim Venturino, Debbie and Mark Nardini; Matthew Tesoriere. The committee provided a delicious spaghetti/meatball luncheon for the guests.

NEL RIMPIANGERNE LA PERDITA, CI ASSOCIAMO AL LUTTO ED AL DOLORE DEI LORO CONGIUNTI AI QUALI INVIAMO LE NOSTRE CONDOGLIANZE.

"NECROLOGIO"

Member's Name	Lodge	Lodge
Joe La Banca	Hacienda	2168
Romano Della Santina	Cornelia Vita-Nuova	1198
Carmine Gigi	Cornelia Vita-Nuova	1198
Ida Pucci	Cornelia Vita-Nuova	1198
Donato Raffaelli	Eureka	1274
Newton Dal Poggetto	Valley of the Moon	1959
Phyllis Sarafini	Valley of the Moon	1959
Carmela Cotugno	Dolly Sinatra	2400
Anthony Shane	Dolly Sinatra	2400
Anita Perry	Vincenzo Bellini	2519
Frank Cattuzzo	Hanford	1543
Ed Reynolds	Shasta	2453
Frank Harrison	St. Helena	2077
Denise Runciman	Shasta	2453



Tony Tesoriere, Vice-President of the Kings County Historical Society, accepts a check for \$1000.00 from Charities chair, Joan Little to be used for the Society's Church Restoration Fund.

Gold Country Lodge # 2705

El Dorado Hills, CA
by Tami Welch



Gold Country Lodge #2705 shared activities, Italian Facts & Culture at Rescue Elementary School Districts International Festival on March 16th. Thank you to Joanne and David Hyman, Beverly Scotch, Jan and Bud Keahey for coordinating and providing yummy biscotti's and Caprese bites. Other volunteers were Genny Arieta, Kathleen Ellertson and Tami Welch

Become a Sponsor of Il Leone!



Paul Monette, Larry Shuman, Rose Shuman, Steve Delben, John DiMatteo, Leonard Duz.

Shasta Lodge # 2453

Redding, CA
by Carole Dellaragione

Greetings from Redding, We hosted the Enterprise Culinary Team fundraiser in early March. This was planned and held in about a one month period of time and they sold about one hundred dinner tickets. They also had a very successful Dessert auction and raffle. Their goal was to raise at least \$1200 and they raised about \$1400.

On St. Patrick's Day we held our annual corned beef and cabbage dinner. We had about 125 in attendance and Enterprise Starship put on a great show. We passed the hats and matched funds and were able to present them with \$1200. Another great event.

On March 24th our lodge prepared a lunch for the "Welcome Home Vietnam Vets" event for the local veterans. Jim Nobili and his crew takes on this event each year and it is very popular in our community.

On March 25th about eighteen of our lodge members made the drive to Chico to attend the Vincenzo Bellini lodge's annual Spaghetti Dinner. It is always fun getting together with their members. Many of us also plan to attend their anniversary dinner in May.

The Redding Communi-

ty Guild (formerly Redding Grange), our landlords, will hold a spaghetti and meatball fundraiser on April 8th. Most of the Guild members are also members of Shasta Lodge so a win-win day.

For most of these events, there is a bar serving adult beverages. Thank you Jim Nobili with Bob Gullixson, Jim Giacomelli, John Tasello for keeping us hydrated.

With all these events, it takes many people to make them successful. Thank you to all of you who help, members and friends.

Starting on April 5th, many of us will be participating in a City of Redding Parks and Recreation Department Bocce League. Shasta Lodge built the courts two years ago and recently refurbished the decomposed granite courts. The league filled very quickly with some of our lodge teams and also local people who are taking part. The local Special Olympics kids and adults also play at the courts one day a week, and I understand there are some good players.

We hope you are getting some much needed rain as we are, but hope for a sunny Easter Day.

Ciao from your friends at Shasta Lodge.



Jim Giacomelli, Bob Gullixson, Jim Nobili, John Tasello and Alan Wolochuk.



Barbara Sherman, Rose Nobili, Nancy Wolochuk.



Let's "tie" one on at Convention

Calling on all members to put their Italian Heritage and artistic talents to work. Whether or not you will be attending the Grand Lodge Convention in June, we want to see your Italian creativity.



There will be three different contests as follows:

- Italian themed aprons – adult
- Both combined (aprons and ties) – youth.
- Nothing "R" rated – Please
- * Italian themed ties – adult
- * Each have a \$20 entry fee

How it will work:

- 1) Entries will be brought in at registration and given a number, then taken to display.
- 2) A container will be placed in front of each entry for people's choice voting.
- 3) \$1.00 per vote. No tickets needed.... just keep dropping those one-dollar bills.
- 4) Container with most \$ in adult competitions will be split 50/50
- 5) Youth container with most \$ will be split 50/50 with the youth group.

All will be on display throughout the convention and winners will be announced Sunday morning. Should you have any questions OR SUGGESTIONS, feel free to e-mail me at silaccilu@gmail.com

Fraternally,
Louise Silacci
State Trustee-Central

Weed Lodge # 1269

Weed, CA
by Peggy Soletti
Recording Secretary

We closed out 2017 with our annual members and family Christmas Social with about 60 attending. Goody-filled Christmas stockings were handed out to the children by Santa and Mrs. Claus. The Christmas Trivia and Elf Name games organized by Kim Greene were a big hit, as well as the 1st ever Ugly Christmas Sweater contest for our Lodge. Winners were: 1st Beth Zandona; 2nd Brenda Zandona; 3rd Dennis Zandona; and Honorable Mention Hud Oates. Members brought 156.3 pounds of non-perishable food items for donation to the Siskiyou Food Assistance Program.

We catered two events; survived the holidays; and then it was time for our annual Crab Dinner in February. 600 pounds of the freshest, sweetest crab was served to 200 attendees along with rigatoni, salad, bread, and dessert. The lively crowd appreciated the delicious meal and gave chairs Brenda Zandona, Jon Elsnab, and Richard Negro and the kitchen crew profuse compliments. Additionally, our waiters,

Weed High School baseball team with Coach Josh Oates and assistant Jeremy Keen, collected \$1,100 in tips that night which will go toward the purchase of a pitching machine. These young men certainly make our clean-up job easier!

The Weed Lumber Town Museum dinner always held the 2nd weekend in March (which we cater) sold out of tickets early and the Lodge filled to capacity. Once again, Brenda Zandona and the kitchen cooked up tasty chicken, ravioli, salad, and green beans. Many reported it was the best chicken ever! This is the biggest fundraiser the Museum sponsors and we are happy to partner with them. This year, they also sold a DVD of Weed, California - 1920's - 1970's. Very interesting!

New on our calendar is a home-style roast beef dinner complete with mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, and salad. This event will be April 14, 2018 with tickets priced at \$20 for adults and \$5.00 for children 10 and under. With Brenda Zandona and Jon El-

snab at the helm, we can't go wrong!

Sally Acquistapace and Shirley Dutt will chair our May rigatoni and meatball drive-thru dinner. This has proven to be very successful and popular with our community. Who wants to cook when you can have an excellent meal brought right to your car?

The Weed Carnevale is scheduled for July 5-8 this year. Our Lodge will cook a spaghetti dinner on Thursday night, July 5. We are excited to have the opportunity to sponsor this event and plan for a big turnout.

We were honored to have State Trustee - North Bill Murphy and Immediate State Past President Lynn Lawrence-Murphy visit our March meeting. We enjoyed a light deli-style meal beforehand as well as camaraderie with our brothers and sisters. Brother Bill and Sister Lynn helped initiate our newest, and youngest, member Tyler Cervelli. Tyler lives in Mount Shasta where he and his dad op-

erate Ron's Furniture and Appliances. He is also a lieutenant with the Mount Shasta Fire Department. We welcome Tyler to our family, Weed Lodge #1269!

Members recently were made aware of two worthy causes in our community. Shasta View Estates is preparing for their 2018 Weed Community Annual Easter Event on March 31. Additionally, the McConnell Foundation has offered a challenge grant up to \$100,000 (May 1, 2018 deadline) to be used for the completion of the Weed Community Center which was destroyed in the Boles Fire. Construction is well underway and the Center is projected to open in late summer or early fall. Members voted unanimously to donate to both undertakings.

Spring IS on the way! And with the coming of spring, Spring Cleaning is on our calendar for the Lodge on May 3. We will spruce up or fix up all those chores left over the winter. Join us!

Until next time, ciao from Northern California

Cesare Battisti Lodge # 1518

Petaluma, CA
by Louise Vicino

Greetings from Petaluma! Sorry my article for February didn't make it to the Il Leone. It was sent and never received. So my apologies to all members.

Today was a beautiful day but cold. The rainy weather we have been having blew all my magnolia tulips off the tree. My maples are all getting their beautiful leaves (which is why I love this time of the year) and the rain glistens on the leaves looking like beautiful diamonds.

I hope that you enjoy your garden as much as I enjoy mine.

I hope that you had a great St. Patrick's Day and a wonderful St. Joseph's Day as well. A lot of celebrating going on.

With Daylight Savings Time now, maybe more of you members will be coming to our meetings. Our President Ann Albertoni is doing a great job, and the members and their guests seem to be enjoying themselves. Our dinner meetings are good and our last coffee and desert meeting was success. Come to a meeting and give your support to the Lodge.

We had a good turnout for the corned beef and cabbage dinner, which was excellent. Our thanks to the cooks and to all who worked to make it a success.

Our next dinner which is a ham dinner, will probably happen before you see this article. So a report on it will be given in the next Il Leone.

The Board members met at President Ann's home for a meeting recently to discuss ways to increase our revenue and membership. So try and bring in some ideas and some new members to our Lodge. Suggestions are always welcomed.

May 10th - Monthly dinner and meeting.

Happy Mother's Day to all the beautiful Mothers on their special day!

Angelo and Janet Leone won the Monthly Drawing.

Get well wishes to anyone who is ill. Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to all who are celebrating this month.

Remember to be nice to someone you will always get it back in return.

Ciao,



SPRING IS HERE!



Centinela Valley Lodge # 1991

Torrance, CA
by Annette Porter

Our February Crabfest dinner was a terrific evening. We had a wonderful crab dinner. The food was fantastic, as usual, thanks to chefs Mark Vaona, Annette Porter, Lisa Hayes, Tony and Pat Giamberdino, Nicole Vaona, Steve Guthrie and the other members that helped put this event together. Our entertainment for the evening was Tony, "The Sicilian Band". Tony is fantastic! He always has everyone up and dancing. We would like to thank the following lodges that came to our dinner dance; America Lodge, Anaheim Lodge, Pugliese Lodge and Saddleback Lodge. We have a wonderful time when we can bring many lodges together.

At the March meeting we had the pleasure of initiating a new member Stephen Spolidoro. Thank you to Larry Neville for bringing Stephen into our lodge, Larry has been bringing in many new members.

Our March "Toby and Athena's Greek Wedding" dinner show was a big success. We had many in attendance for the evening, with everyone enjoying themselves. Thank you to the chefs of the evening Lisa Hayes, Annette Porter, Pat Giamberdino, Nicole Vaona and Christian. The show was outstanding. They had everyone up dancing and interacting in the show. As always, the guests are ready for next year's show, keep a look out for our calendar for next year's show.

Without each and every one of our members that help with the events, they would not be as successful.

The April dinner dance this year is our Queen's Coronation on Saturday April 7th. We will be having 8 of our past queens there to bring in our new queen. We are proud to announce that our queen will be Marissa Lavezzari. We hope to see many of you at our dinner dance. We will be having homemade lasagna thanks to one of our members. Further information to follow.

Our anniversary is scheduled for Saturday May 19th. Invites will be going out to the state officers and each lodge. The menu will include your choice of Prime Rib or Chicken Wellington, the price is \$40.00 for adults and \$20.00 for children under 12. We have the pleasure of honoring "Brian Sinaguglia and In Memory of Lenny Sinaguglia" this year.



Amedeo and Francesca Rocca enjoying their dinner with their friends.



Saddleback lodge members having a wonderful time listening to the music and each others company.



Diana Picone, John and Italia Barbera with their family and friends.



Linda Enneman and her friend Chris loving every bite of their crab.



Our member that loves to barbeque Tony Giamberdino and Betty Sandroni having a wonderful time.



John Scataloni and Cleo Young showing everyone their crab.



Dolores Sinaguglia and Edithe DiGiuro enjoying their visit and dinner.



Patty Perez escorting our new member Stephen Spolidoro.



State Miss America Elizabeth Lavezzari and her sister our new Lodge Queen Marissa Lavezzari.