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



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

**MAY 2018** 



State President John Costa

As we enter into May we should have plenty of flowers the April showers took care of that. It is nice to have some spring weather, even though we need the rain. The end of April and going into May will be a busy time for my schedule. The end of April I attended the Modesto Lodge's foundation Black Tie event. The following week it was onto Santa Rosa Lodge for their Fish Fry. The next weekend it was up to Chico where Vincenzo Bellini Lodge held their anniversary dinner and also honored a well deserving member Jim Lamanna, their state deputy, but not only state deputy there but also for Weed and Klamath Falls, a well deserving member. The very next day First Lady Donna Lee got on a plane to Anaheim for Anaheim's 60th anniversary dinner, I sure I will be able to fit in some Disney time while there.

May 12th is the Vallejo Lodges Annual Wine Tasting event. I am also hoping to attend Centinela Valley's anniversary dinner, then (where do I have time to work!) I will be heading to NELA in Washington DC fortunately I will be able to see my grandkids while there as they live in Virginia.

As I have mentioned in past articles, with the help of Solano County Supervisor Erin Hannigan and her staff, with the help of Senator Mike Thompson we were able to get the new post office named after Janet Cappello. Those that remember Janet, you would agree she is most deserving of this honor. Thank you Erin and Michael for your hard work in achiev-

ing this!!

So I do not forget, Happy Mother's Day to all of those mothers and grandmothers! Remember they are why we are here!. On a personal note, "Happy Mother's Day Mom and happy birthday, (her birthday is real close to Mother's Day) I appreciate everything you have done in the past and your support in the future!

Convention is fast approaching, Lori and Lynn have been working very hard are planning with the host lodge West End. Sitting in on one the meetings with the hotel there is a lot of work that is done to prepare for a convention. So next time you see Lynn and Lori tell them thank you for all their efforts.

By the time you read this we will know who the new Queen or King will be for the Grand Lodge of California, Congratulations to all the candidates and thank you for all your efforts in fund raising not only for yourself and you lodge and the Grand Lodge.

On a sad note we have lost a lodge. Lake County Lodge voted to close their lodge at the end of April. It's hard to see a lodge close, but fortunately we were able to have a number of members transfer to other lodges. Thank you Karen, for your years of service as President of Lake County lodge.

There are other Lodges that are struggling to keep membership. I have asked our three area Vice Presidents to reach out to these lodges to see where we can help. Membership is a key to our success. Sign up a new member, talk about the Sons and Daughters of Italy in America to your friends and neighbors. It is amazing how many people have not ever heard of our organization.

Communication is another item we all as an organization need to work on. We have so many tools to communicate, be it land lines, cell phones, twitter, instagram email, texting and facebook, just to name a few. Regarding facebook, I personally do not go on facebook that often, but when I do, I see all these

News from the Central

**VOL. 72 NO. 5** 

by Arlene Nunziati State 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President



Attended a meeting of the Cornelia Vita Nuova Lodge, dinner was great and President Angela ran a terrific meeting. She has some great new ideas for events for this year. This is a very old established lodge in San Francisco and there were quite a few members in attendance. Everyone works together. Hopefully I can attend another meeting in the near future.

Columbia Lodge had a great corned beef & cabbage dinner sponsored by the Dice Girls. The corned beef was delicious and the evening great. Thank you Dice girls.

We are looking forward to another visit from our State Trustee from the Central Louise Silacci. She was so impressed by the lodge that she is returning.

Hospice of San Mateo County honored my Dad at a big fundraiser dinner at the PIASC in March. It was lovely and such a lovingly tribute to Dad. They had all sorts of raffle prizes and auction items and everyone was so generous.

Easter was very quiet but a lovely day. It was just Mom and I; the kids were not able to come home.

I attended opening day of the Giants and was thrilled as this is only my second time to attend opening day. Unfortunately, this time we lost but it was a lovely sunny day. Such a great experience.

That week Baris from Stackmason came to the office and we completely converted to the new membership system. The per capita and rosters will look a little different in June for the 3rd

## News from the South

by Sadie Tamburine State 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President



I was pleased to be able to attend the United Lodges from the South meeting on April 8th at the Centinella Valley Lodge. I had the opportunity to bring the lodges up to date with what happened at Grand Council meeting, Western Foundation meeting and the Gala. Following this meeting my daughter, Susan Webb, and I drove to Palm Springs to celebrate their 41st Anniversary. President Joe La Porta was the Honoree.

More trivia about our Italian culture.

Many of our Italian relatives believe in superstitions. One of the more popular superstitions is the Malocchio (mal=bad occhio=eye) or the evil eye.

It's the look that one person gives to another if they are jealous or envious. According to Italian folklore, those giving the malocchio can cause harm to someone else. Legend says it's just another way of putting a curse on others that can cause physical pain such as head or stomach aches or even cause misfortune.

## Protecting Yourself from the Italian Evil Eye Curse

What can you do to prevent the malocchio (often pronounced "maloik")?

Many Italians wear a horn (cornetto, corno, or cornicello) which resembles a chili pepper. The horns are usually made of coral, gold or silver and are either worn as a necklace or hung in one's home to ward off evil spirits. This horn tradition evolved in Old Europe when the horned animal (the moon goddess) was considered sacred.

They are a culturally pop-

## News from the North

by Barbara Wisniewski State 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President



Spring is in the air, finally, and May flowers have bloomed after the many April showers!

Now is the time for our Lodges to get involved in membership drives. Does your Lodge have an active Membership Committee? Maybe you could volunteer for that Committee. Your Trustees could use help in growing our Lodges and our Order. Remember, one new member per member!

As a member of the Grand Council, I have worked with the rest of the Council to cut costs at every turn. What I have realized is that many costs are fixed. The only way to have us pay less is to increase our membership. The more members we have the less per member it costs to support the Grand Lodge through the year. Get out into your community and get recognized so we can attract new members.

When a potential member arrives at a meeting make them feel welcomed. Introduce yourself. If you are a Lodge Officer be sure to mention that and talk about what that means to you. If you are not an Officer talk about what being a member of the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America means to you. Show them that we are a family of sisters and brothers.

Till next month... Fraternally

ular amulet and are primarily found in Italy and in North America among descendants of Italian immigrants. In some instances, the corno has become a symbol of Italian pride

More to come.

Cont. on page 3

Cont. on page 3

## From the Editor's Desk

by Andy Pampuro apampuro@comline.com



This is just a gentle reminder that your sponsorship monies are due either now or at the convention. I hope you are all willing to continue as sponsors of the Il Leone. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Fraternally yours, Andy Pampuro



## **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





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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.

1475 Sulphur Springs Ave St. Helena, CA 94574 Phone: 707-963-0521 Cell #: 707-694-8621 Fax #: 707-968-9709 Email: <u>clawrence2844@sbcglobal.net</u>

#### State Orator MARK VAONA 2802 Knode St.

2802 Knode 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

#### Cell: 707-299-0922 State Trustee North

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.nett

#### 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: rtvanoni@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)

(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

#### HON. AL GIRÓLAMI 3115 Lake Albano Drive

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 Audraine 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, II 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: rtvanoni@surewest.net

CHAIRPERSONS OF

**COMMITTEES** 

Media

**ANDY PAMPURO** 

718 D Avenida Maiorca

Laguna Woods, CA 92637

Phone #: 949-855-4279

Fax #: 949-206-0299

Cell #: 949-637-5477

Email: apampuro@comline.com

San Jose, CA 95135 Cell #: 209-531-6553 Email: alveragiro@yahoo.com Grand Lodge Building

#### Grand Lodge Building Grand Lodge Office 415-586-1316

Judiciary

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

#### Scholarship Students to Italy Program ROSEMARIE VANDERHAAR

Email:taxcpa4you@aol.com

801 W. Duarte Rd. #I 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.

A206 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 Audraine Drive

437 Audraine 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 Audraine 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

5051Mission St. San Francico, CA 94112 Phone #: 415-742-9366 CONVENTION AND GRAND COUNCIL MEETINGS COORNINATOR

LYNN LAWRENCE-MURPHY LORI ROSSI

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## **CONGRESSMAN MIKE THOMPSON**

Serving California's 5th Congressional District

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: April 2, 2018 Contact: Alex Macfarlane, 202-225-3311

> Thompson Announces Passage of Bill to Rename Vallejo Post Office in Honor of Janet Capello

Local icon to be honored for contributions to Vallejo community



Vallejo – Today, **Rep. Mike Thompson** (CA-05) announced that the President signed legislation introduced by Thompson to officially rename the Vallejo Post Office located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo as the "Janet Capello Post Office Building." Janet Capello was a lifelong resident of Vallejo who was dedicated to serving her community, always working to improve the lives of those around her.

"Janet Capello was an icon of our community, working tirelessly to help others and fighting passionately to improve our entire district. I was honored to know her and honored to fight for the passage of this bill that will memorialize her lifetime of service," **said Thompson**. "Her work with the Order of the Sons of Italy helped support so many of our young people pursuing an education and her service to Vallejo improved our community as a whole. Naming this Post Office in her honor will serve as a lasting testament to her love of the people she served."

"Janet Capello was such a powerful force in the fabric of Vallejo. She lived her life as a strong woman of deep convictions—of her greatest passions were the City and especially the Youth of Vallejo," said Solano County Supervisor Erin Hannigan. "Our new Post Office near her family homestead now bears her name as a tribute to her community spirit.

"Janet was an incredible pillar of our Italian community who strived to better every aspect of her environment," said John Costa, State President of the Grand Lodge of California, Order of Sons and Daughters of Italy in America. "We, as members of the Sons and Daughters of Italy in America, were honored to have known her and to have worked along-side her. This Post Office will be an important reminder to us all to serve our community and those around us and to remember our dear sister Janet.

"Janet and I met 21 years ago and she was such a great person in the community. She was somebody to look up to and it was because of her mentorship that I became the 'Kitchen Queen' for the Sons of Italy," **said Marlene Parr.** "This honor is so well-deserved because of all that she did for the community."

Janet R. Capello was born on May 25, 1935, in Vallejo, California. The granddaughter of Italian-American immigrants, Ms. Capello and her family were lifelong residents of the Vallejo area. An alumna of both Vallejo Central High School and Vallejo Junior College, Ms. Capello spent over forty years working at the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. During her time there, and in the years following her retirement, Ms. Capello rapidly became a mainstay in public life, serving on countless boards, commissions, and organizational leadership teams.

Ms. Capello's deepest passion was the "Sons of Italy" organization. A fiercely proud Italian American, Ms. Capello was a member of Lodge No. 1626 for more than 63 years, and was the first to bring the organization's "Sons of Italy Scholarship Commission" to Vallejo. In her role as Chairwoman, Ms. Capello helped hundreds of local students attend college, and in her work overseeing the Sons of Italy's various charitable events, she raised thousands of dollars every year to support Alzheimer's research at the University of California at Davis. Ms. Capello served at different times as Vice-President of the Grand Lodge of California and as Secretary of the United Lodges, two of the organizations most distinguished posts, and she received the Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro Award, the Sons of Italy's highest honor, in 2007. In 2012, Ms. Capello passed away at the age of 77.

Congressman Mike Thompson is proud to represent California's 5th Congressional District, which includes all or part of Contra Costa, Lake, Napa, Solano and Sonoma Counties. He is a senior member of the House Ways and Means Committee. Rep. Thompson is also a member of the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Coalition and chairs the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force as well as the bipartisan, bicameral Congressional Wine Caucus. He is also an Italian-American and a member of the Sons of Italy St. Helena Lodge No. 2077.

United States House of Representatives 231 Cannon House Office Building • Washington, DC 20515 Phone: 202-225-3311 • Fax: 202-225-4335

#### President's Message Cont. from page 1

amazing recipes for food and it makes me hungry, please not so many at a time. But getting back to communication do not assume that by sending an email that person did receive it, if you don't hear back pick up the phone and call to make sure they received.

Let me close with this inspirational quote ,"When I stand before God, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left and could say, I used everything you gave me" Erma Bombeck. Think about this and hopefully it will inspire you to help our Grand Lodge of California.

## **State First Vice President Cont. from page 1**

per quarter but really not much difference. I am still learning so please be patient. If you receive more than one copy of the Il Leone, notify me so that I can correct it. My sincere gratitude to the Tedesco's for all the assistance they have given me since I have worked here. Baris could not believe that such a sophisticated system was written so many years ago. It really was a great system and gave so much information and we really need to thank them!

I attended the Palm Springs Anniversary Dinner honoring President Joe La-Porta with National President Vera Girolami. It was a great event attended by over 150 guests. Food was great; casino where venue was held is beautiful and everyone was so friendly. A great evening for a very deserving gentleman. We were treated to the great music of Frankie DeSalvo. I could listen to him all night!

The first morning we had breakfast with National 5th VP Richard Della Croce and his wife Chris. They needed to get away from the Chicago weather and came to the right place. The next morning we had breakfast with Joe and his wife and then had a tour of the very beautiful Palms Springs Lodge Hall. It is really a beautiful building. I also met Lori who brings in all the new members along with Frankie and Joe. I asked her how she gets so many new members and she gave me her "secret".

We have a new young person in the office that is currently in training.

I finally got my first taste of crab. Attended the crab dinner of the Italian American Heritage Club in San Jose and got to see the beautiful statue of Christopher Columbus that the Mayor of San Jose had removed from City Hall. It is really a beauty statue! And the crab was delicious!

Any questions, be sure to contact me.

Ciao and Happy Mother's Day to all the Moms!



# Become a Sponsor of Il Leone!

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#### California Italian-American Task Force



Dear Fellow Italian-Americans,

Once again Columbus Day in California is under attack. We need your voice to help save the holiday.

A Legislative Bill **(SB-1490)** has been introduced in the California State Senate by Senator Henry Stern to replace Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day. The Bill is backed by casino tribes

Let's save the Columbus Day holiday, observed in California and nationwide on the second Monday of October each year by the federal government and in most states and cities across America. This is our holiday. Don't let them take it away from us to erase our history and replace it with some one else's holiday and history. We need a holiday to celebrate and tell our story. Columbus is blamed for many acts of others that followed him, but the truth is that he was one of the greatest explorers in history and came here to open trade routes.

Columbus Day is part of our American and Italian-American heritage. *It is an American holiday celebrating all immigrants to the United States and their descendants* which is most of us. Italian-Americans have adopted the holiday as their own national holiday and celebrate their heritage and rich contributions across our nation on Columbus Day. Its the day we and other Americans celebrate our own coming to America. So let's let our Legislators know we want to keep an Italian-American holiday on Columbus Day.

We need your voice - and your help - to let some key legislators hear from us that we oppose this Bill and that we want to keep our Italian-American holiday. The Bill comes up for hearing on April 24.

If you or your organization wishes to be listed as opposing SB1490 please send confirmation to italy  $1 \ \text{@surewest.net}$ 

The California Italian American Task Force and many other Italian-American organizations and individuals across the state are opposing the Bill and letting the Senators know why Columbus Day matters to Italian-Americans.

Please take a minute to call or send an email to the following legislators:

#### SEND A LETTER!

You can send letters to the name of the Senator at: State Capitol, 1315 10th Street, Sacramento CA 95814

#### SEND AN EMAIL!

Find your Senators email addresses at http://senate.ca.gov/senators or call them at the numbers listed below:

Senator Henry Stern, Santa Barbara (916) 651-4027

Senator Bill Dodd, Napa (916) 651-4003

Senator Tom Berryhill, Central Valley (916) 651-4008

Senator Anthony Cannella, Central Valley (916) 651-4012

Senator Cathleen Galgiani, Stockton (916) 651-4005

Senator Steve Glazer, Contra Costa (916) 651-4007

Senator Ben Hueso, San Diego (916) 651-4040

Senator Jerry Hill, San Mateo (916) 651-4013

Senator Anthony Portantino, LA / Burbank (916) 651-4025

Senator Ted Gaines, Sacramento / Tahoe (916) 651-4001

Senator Ricardo Lara, Los Angeles (916) 651-4033

Senator Andy Videk, Central Valley (916) 651-4014

PLEASE SHARE your written communications to the Senators with:
The California Italian-American Task Force
PO Box 189427, Sacramento CA 95818
italy1@surewest.net
or visit www.italiancenter.info/programs/columbus-day.html

## Joanne Coccia Lodge #2553

by Anthony N. Finazzo Past President



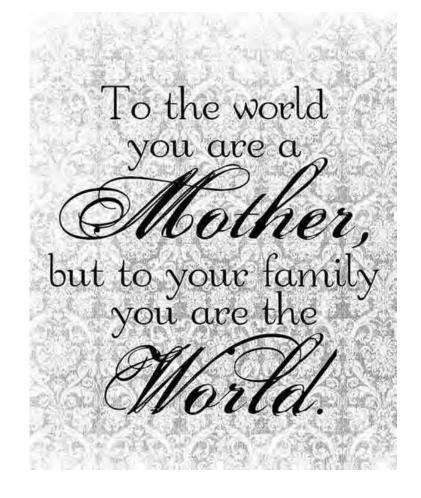
**Devin Joseph Guevara** 

Devin Joseph Guevara, 18, Grand Lodge King Candidate and junior member of the Joanne Coccia Lodge #2553 has received Boy Scouting's highest achievement award. Devin was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout on January 2, 2018, and celebrated with family and friends at his Eagle Scout Court of Honor on April 14, 2018. The ceremony was held at his Eagle Scout project site, the Knights of Columbus Hall in Fontana where the Joanne Coccia Lodge holds their monthly meetings. There were approximately 100 people in attendance for this special occasion. A delicious spaghetti dinner with meatballs was served after the beautiful candle-light ceremony. Devin joined the Cub Scouts in 2006. He bridged to Webelos I and II, earned the coveted Arrow of Light and graduated into Boy Scouts in 2011. Of the 36 merit badges he earned, 21 of them are Eagle Scout merit badges which are required to earn the rank of Eagle Scout. A senior at Redlands High School, Devin will graduate in June 2018. An aspiring film editor, he is looking forward to a career

in film and post production. Devin plans to attend college and will receive a scholarship award from the Joanne Coccia Lodge #2553. Devin was sponsored by both organizations, the Knights of Columbus and the Joanne Coccia Lodge, to help raise funds for his project. Devin and his fellow scouts took on the task of renovating the entire exterior of the Knights of Columbus hall. They did a marvelous job. A number of people spoke during this event and awarded him several proclamations from the Knights of Columbus, the Joanne Coccia Lodge and the City of Fon-

"Eagle Scout is the highest advancement rank in Boy Scouting. Since 1912 more than two million boy scouts have earned the Eagle Scout Rank. In the words of the Eagle Scout Promise, Eagles do their best each day to make their training an example, their rank and their influence count strongly for better Scouting and for better citizenship in their troop, in their community, and in their contacts with other people. To this they pledge their sacred honor."

Devin's parents were in attendance and both spoke highly of their son's accomplishments. Devin's mother is Michaelynn Minicucci, the Recording Secretary for the Joanne Coccia Lodge #2553. Devin and his sister Maggie became junior members of the Sons and Daughters of Italy in 2011. Congratulations Devin on your achievement as an Eagle Scout and good luck in your future endeavors.



## **Attention Lodges Attending Convention:**

I would like to ask our lodges to please bring any historical artifacts and/or memorabilia that they would, like to share for the Italian Language & Culture/History room that will be available in the hotel....lodge banners, programs, photo albums, etc.or any item that has historical significance for your' lodge. Since 2018 has been declared the "Year of Italian Food" please also bring any lodge cookbooks to display All items will be lovingly taken care of, and will be picked up by their owners by the end of convention. Please contact me if you haveany questions.

Maria Fassio Pignati, Chair, Italian Language & Culture/History Committee.



### Let's "tie" one on at Convention

Did you know that 2018 has been declared the year of Italian food in the World? At our upcoming convention Italian Language & Culture/History Committee Chair: Maria Pignati is requesting that lodges bring their cookbooks to help highlight the Year of Italian Food.

And what better way to accessorize a cookbook than an Italian apron or tie?

There will be three different contests as follows:

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

#### 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.
- \$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 with the Grand Lodge
- 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 when time permits. Should you have any questions OR SUGGESTIONS, feel free to e-mail me at silaccilu@gmail.com

Fraternally, Louise Silacci State Trustee-Central







## 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 e 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



The 82nd State Convention of the Grand Lodge of California will take place at the Double Tree by Hilton Ontario Airport from June 28 through June 30, 2018. Rooms are under the name Sons of Italy The room rate is \$110. ++ Hotel must receive reservations by June 1

The Package price is \$240.00 which includes the

Thursday, June 28 – Theme Night: Great Gatsby Roaring 20's

Friday, June 29 – Royal Pageant Saturday, June 30 – Black and White Ball

> Any questions, contact **Convention Coordinators** Lori Rossi or Lynn Lawrence – Murphy

Wednesday, June 27 (3:30) is the Bocce Tournament Price \$16.00

## Cleopatra

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

E-mail: stephencontrado@gmail.com

Cleopatra was a member of the Ptolemy family that ruled Egypt. She was born in 69 B.C. She was too young to rule when her parents died so she was put under the care of two Egyptian nobles, named Pothinus and Achillas. These corrupt men tried to control Cleopatra and remain in control of Egypt even after Cleopatra was old enough to rule.

Fortunately, Julius Caesar, who was a great general and the leader of the Roman world, arrived in Egypt at this time. Cleopatra was competing with her brother for the throne. Caesar took her side in the conflict and helped her to gain power.

Caesar was captivated by Cleopatra's charm, intelligence and beauty. It is believed they had a son named Caesarion. With Caesar, she visited Rome. She believed her country would be treated well by the Romans. She loved Egypt and wanted it to be a partner of Rome in governing the world.

Her fortune changed, however, when Caesar was assassinated. It was now a time of uncertainty for Cleopatra and Egypt. No one knew who would assume power in Rome and what their attitude would be toward Egypt. Cleopatra returned to Egypt to await the results. Mark Antony and Octavian, two very influential

men in Rome, contended for political power.

Mark Antony visited Egypt, met with Cleopatra, and fell in love with her. They shared common interests. Antony wanted the wealth of Egypt to help him attain mastery of Rome. Cleopatra hoped Antony would make Egypt a leading nation in the world.

The forces of Anthony and Cleopatra met with those of Octavian in a great sea battle at a place called Actium in 31 B.C. Octavian won the battle. Soon afterwards Antony lost another battle at Alexandria. Filled with grief, Antony stabbed himself and died in the arms of Cleopatra. Cleopatra fearing to be treated cruelly by the victorious Octavian killed herself by making a poisonous asp bite her.

Queen Cleopatra has been talked about ever since. The Greek biographer Plutarch was one of the first authors to write about her. Her story is told in the plays "Anthony and Cleopatra" by William Shakespeare, "All for Love" by John Dryden, and "Caesar and Cleopatra" by George Bernard Shaw. The actress Elizabeth Taylor will forever be remembered for playing the title role in the movie "Cleopatra" (1963). Cleopatra is the subject of many paintings, prints, and artifacts.

### 365 Fund Raiser - Winners

March 16-31			
16	\$25.00	Jack & Carla Silva	
17	\$25.00	Sadie Tamburine	
18	\$25.00	Lou Seibel	
19	\$25.00	Angela Caserza	
20	\$25.00	Joyce Coccia	
21	\$25.00	Lawrie Salvestrin	
22	\$25.00	Angela Silva	
23	\$25.00	Yolanda Ivaldi	
24	\$25.00	Julia Garbaldi	
25	\$200.00	Lucy Sacco	
26	\$25.00	Norma Marcucci	
27	\$25.00	Virgilio Lodge	
28	\$25.00	Jan Trigleth	
29	\$25.00	Norma Marcucci	
30	\$25.00	Kim Grenne	
31	\$50.00	Albert Galli	
April 1-15			
1	\$25.00	Dick Haggerty	
2	\$25.00	Tim Coraglotti	
3	\$25.00	Liz Steckman	
4	\$25.00	Joy Bruno	
5	\$25.00	Moya Valdez	
6	\$25.00	Deborah Mistaetta	
7	\$25.00	Sam Spagnola	
9	\$25.00	Linda DePalma	
10	\$25.00	Arlene Nunziati	
11	\$25.00	Fran Stone	
12	\$25.00	Janey Leonardich	
13	\$25.00	Zelda Delecci	
14	\$25.00	Chantal Fizio	
15	\$25.00	Arlene Nunziati	

## LIST OF UNITED LODGES

SAN MATEO COUNTY BENNIE PARDINI 1400 Hopkins #101 Redwood City, CA 94062 Phone: (650) 367-8828

NORTH BAY SHARON SILVEIRA 1818 Vervais Ave. Vallejo, CA 94591 707 644-5304 ravioli\_spaghetti@yahoo.com

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CHARLES SANT'AGATA 1945 N. Glen Alva Lane Clovis, CA 93619 Phone: (559) 323-9523 cjsa@att.net

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CARMINE BAFFO 19560 Rolling Greens Drive Apple Valley, Ca 92308 Phone: 760-885-8256 carminnie@earthlink.net



A Roman bust of Cleopatra dated to the mid 1<sup>st</sup> century B.C. discovered in a villa along the Via Appia.

## **Save the Date**

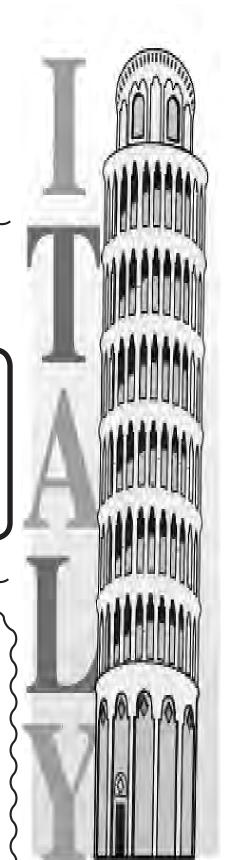
June 16, 2018
Columbia Lodge #1940 Honoring National
President Vera Girolami
Peninsula Italian American Club
100 N B Street
San Mateo

More info to come

## **Lodge Anniversaries**

)	
May	
<sup>)</sup> Roma #1573	5/25/30
Valley of the Moon #1959	5/17/47
William Paca #1960	5/25/47
) West Covina #2056	5/14/56
Anaheim #2076	3/13/58
St. Helena #2077	5/28/58
Dolly Sinatra #2400	5/29/77
Vincenzo Bellini #2519	5/29/82

Congratulations!!!



## Vallejo Lodges

by Sharon Silveira

Always an amazing event when the Vallejo Lodges honor their scholarship recipients. On Sunday, April 15th, six of our eight winners with their families joined us for a traditional spaghetti & meatball dinner. Erin Hannigan, Vice-Chairwoman of the Solano County Board of Supervisors, severed as the evenings MC and introduced each recipient with some background on their accomplishments.

Kiara Amaya Agan from Rio Vista High School received both the Daniel D'Amico and the Adua Pizzorno Memorial Scholarships. Anicia Alanis from Benicia High School was awarded the Henry W. Treadway Memorial Scholarship. Both Chloe Bonini from Benicia High School and Skylar Jacobs from St. Patrick-St. Vincent High School each received a Buck Kamphausen Scholarship. Macguire Buss from Vacaville High School was the recipient of both the Donald Cahan Memorial Scholarship and the Joe Agosta Memorial Scholarship. Sydney Minns from Armijo High School received both the Veronica Tarantino Memorial Scholarship and the Giannia & Harry Manfredi Memorial Scholarship. The Janet Capello Scholarship was awarded to Kathryn Ross from Benicia High School. Tana Smith from Vacaville High School received the Virgilio & Beatrice Portinari Lodge Scholarship.

Kudos to the Scholarship Judging Committee: Fred Asche, Pamela & Ray Bini, Rick Branch, Evelyn Fox and Tony Intintoli. Applause for our cooks Rick Branch, Glen Rushing, John Costa and Steve & Lucy Branch and a thank you to our servers Donna Lee Costa, Shelby Clemmons, Bert Harris and Cody Tarantino, a past scholarship recipient. Without a doubt a heartwarming and uplifting evening!

Looking ahead.....come join us on Saturday, May 12th, for our annual Wine Tasting & Appetizer Event benefitting UC Davis Alzheimer's Research. In addition to delicious food, good wine, and an extensive silent auction---the USA World Classic Car Museum is an fascinating venue. Please call Pamela Bini for tickets or additional information. 707 552-7474 or 567-2938



2018 Scholarship winners.



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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 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!

## **HONOR • REMEMBER**

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING LETTER TO YOUR FAMILY:

I'm sorry to have left you without making any final arrangements.

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

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## Eureka Lodge #1274

Eureka, CA by Josephine Silva

We said Goodbye to 2017 and Hello to 2018. We are already one quarter into 2018 before we knew it. And, with the passing of 2017, we think of our beloved members who have recently passed away: Evelyn and Aldo Bongio, Jerry Colivas, Don Raffaelli and all the other members we have had the privilege of knowing and loving these many years. They have left an indelible mark on our order and our lives. Adios Dearest Ones; Until we meet again!

The annual chicken and polenta dinner is coming up on April 29th and I am already salivating at the thought of the delicious sauce and chicken falling off the bones, soft and scrumptious, with French bread to sop up the sauce. Of no, I am torturing myself just thinking about it. If anyone

is in the Eureka area, come on down. You are always welcome! \$15 buys you a ticket and it is worth it. Food, wine, fellowship and fun; life is good in Eureka.

At our October 2017 chicken and polenta dinner we made a motion to donate half of the proceeds of the raffle to the fire victims in Santa Rosa. Needless to say, I am proud of our order. I think we are a great group of people. Full blooded, half-blooded, semi-blooded and wish to be blooded Italians!

The May meeting will be our Mother's Day/Father's Day potluck and we will be giving scholarships to three high school seniors. It is always a wonderful event. Their parents and sometimes grandparents attend.

Have a wonderful Springtime.

The Eureka Sons of Italy lodge recently donated \$900 to help a fellow lodge member who was a victim of the Santa Rosa fires last year. Butch Bondi, left, of the Eureka lodge presented the Santa Rosa lodge with the check. The money was raised at a Sons of Italy chicken and polenta feed last October. The next Sons of Italy chicken polenta feed will be held April 29 at St. Bernard's Academy in Eureka. Serving begins at 5 p.m. and reservations are recommended. Also pictured are, left after Bondi, Sue Tunstall, lodge secretary; Randy Apel, fire victim; Joan Acquistapace, president of Santa Rosa Sons of Italy No. 1898; Doreen Venturi, state deputy; and Carol O'Donald. mistress of ceremony. For more information, call 707-843-6604.

#### CRUCIVERBA A CHIAVE 17 14 16 20 19 22 23 26 27 28 32 33 34 31 29 30 39 40 41 42 43 44

Nelle due strisce bordate potrete leggere un proverbio (1, 4, 5, 3, 4, 2, 6, 7).

ORIZZONTALI: 1. Raganella verde - 4. L'attrice Alt - 10. Signorina inglese - 14. Territorio ligure con Rapallo e Chiavari (tre parole) - 18. Affermazione - 19. Articolo per sportivo - 20. Si usano per lo slalom - 21. Simbolo del piombo - 22. Il centro di Roma - 25. Pesce d'acqua dolce - 29. Nastro per elettricisti - 32. Nota scrittrice di romanzi rosa - 35. Si dice di cibi rustici - 37. Kathleen attrice e Tina cantante - 39. Gravi mancanze di viveri - 40. La vita militare - 41. Istituto che assicura (sigla) - 42. In fondo al corteo - 43. La cerca il senza tetto - 44. Antico altare sacrificale pagano.

VERTICALI: 1. Opera di Mascagni - 2. Tito, scrittore latino - 3. Saluto a Maria - 4. Conferenza Episcopale Italiana - 5. Lago asiatico - 6. Piante con radici piccanti - 7. Poesie classiche - 8. Licenza (abbrev.) - 9. Frutto vellutato - 10. Isola del Mar d'Irlanda - 11. Incisore (abbrev.) - 12. Fa fermare l'automobilista - 13. Parere, apparire - 15. Collera

-16. Per nulla ruvide - 17. Tu e loro - 23. Molto povera - 24. Bucherellate come spugne - 26. Pure... i fianchi - 27. Gabbie per polli - 28. La Lisi del cinema - 30. Diventerà una pianta - 31. Rapido, svelto - 32. Nome di donna - 33. Laminetta di strumenti musicali a fiato - 34. Musicò "La vedova allegra" - 35. Legumi tondeggianti - 36. Il "Ford" dei fumetti - 37. Fine di racconti - 38. Segnale galleggiante.



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Answers page 16

# **Become a Sponsor of II Leone!**





## Saddleback Valley Lodge #2566

Mission Viejo, CA by Andy Pampuro Immediate Past President

On April 27th we took a bus trip to Century City to see the beautiful Eataly which is housed on the second and third floors. The place is huge and quite spread out. They sell almost everything Italian ... pasta, meats, wines, pastries, gelato, etc. Very expensive but some of us did buy a few things. We certainly thank Marilyn Vecchio who arranged this trip and with the help of our president Hank Lowinger and his wife, Michelle they made the bus ride as comfortable as they could passing out water and goodies.

Then at our meeting on April 6th we crowned our prince Joseph Perez. Our outgoing queen, Baylin Herington, approached the podium and made her farewell speech to the audience. It was a magnificent speech as only Baylin can do. Then our prince was escorted by his mother, Nina Perez and Louise Pampuro, both past queens. Baylin then put the robe on Joseph and then crowned him and handed him his septore. Joseph also gave a great speech. President Hank Lowinger presented each with a monetary gift from the lodge. We are very lucky to have two vibrant youngsters to represent our lodge. Baylin is Miss Convention City and will relinquish her crown at the convention.

We enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by our First Lady Michelle Lowinger. We also had a bake sale which did very well We certainly thank all those who bought their baked goods.

On Sunday, April 8th, we had a concert put on by Nina Perez. It was held in one of the clubhouses in Laguna Woods. We had a very nice crowd who enjoyed the talents of many singers including Nina who had with her many friends who sang magnificently including her son, Joseph, who is our lodge Prince. They all were accompanied on the piano by Keiko Halop. It was a fantastic show. During the intermission cookies and coffee were offered to the many people in attendance, The monies made on this concert and the bake sale will go towards royal tickets for our prince.

On Saturday, April 14th, we held a garage sale at the home of our recording secretary Bernie Neil. We certainly thank all those who worked the sale which was quite successful. We also want to thank Al Schlappy and Bernie Neil for allowing us to use their home for this sale.

We wish all the mothers in our lodge a very happy Mother's Day.



Outgoing Queen Baylin Herrington.



President Hank Lowinger presenting a gift to Baylin.



L/R President Hank Lowinger, Louise Pampuro, Prince Joseph Perez and Nina Perez.



Prince Joseph Perez and Queen Baylin Herington.



Prince Joseph Perez with his parents Nina and Keith Perez.



Our Prince Joseph Perez singing his solo.



Nina Perez on the far left and her friends.



# 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 II 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

## Roma Lodge #1573

Tulare, CA by Larry Dutto

Roma Lodge celebrated their 88th Anniversary at the April meeting. Over 70 members and guests were present to enjoy a delicious meal of Italian sausage and risotto prepared by Michael DePaoli, Joseph and Frank Goni, Dominic Pitigliano and Joann Beecher. The lodge recognized members who were celebrating membership milestones.

Roma Lodge will be hosting their 83rd annual Ravioli Dinner on Saturday, May 12th at the T.D.E.S. Hall in Tulare. The meal features ravioli, spaghetti, chicken, green beans, salad, salami, cheese and a biscotti cookie for dessert. The dinner will be a drive through takeout. Tickets may be purchased from Cathy Mederos, 687-1112 for only \$20.



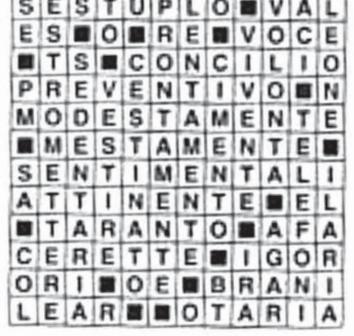
Roma Lodge 5 Year Members

Austin Gentry, Daniel Daramy, Adelyn Watkins, Giulia Watkins and Elisabeth Curti. Certificates were presented by State Trustee Louise Silacci.



Roma Lodge 50 Year Member Presenter Louise Silacci.

# PUZZLE ANSWERS





Roma Lodge 50+ Year Members



## Lodge Websites & E-mail Directory

Anaheim Lodge www.anaheim2076.org

Beatrice Portinari Lodge

OSIAVallejo@yahoo.com C. Colombo Lodge

www.soiccololmbo1315.com

Colombo-Stella Lodge www.sonsofitalyfresno.org sonsofitalyfresno@gmail.com www.facebook.com/pages/ Sons-Of-Italy-Fresno-Colombo-Stel-

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 visaliasonsofitaly.club.officelive.om

Eureka Lodge

sonsofitalyeureka@gmail.com Fratellanza Garibaldina

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

Monterery 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.

# Thank You



**Linda Parent-Tasca**Diablo Valley Lodge 2167



Edna Esposito C. Colombo Lodge 1315



**John Nardi** Columbia Lodge 1940



ORDER OF TANK

David DePaoli Roma Lodge 1573



Lawrence Romanazzi
Enrico Caruso Lodge 1463

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Grand Lodge of California

Louise Silacci, State Trustee Central

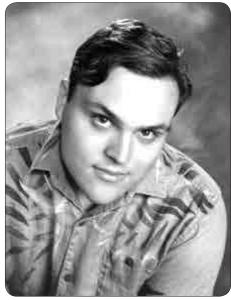
## Contestants for the Royal Contest so far.



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



Christina Della Penna La Costa dei Fiori Lodge



In support of all the men and women who have been called into military action.

You're in our hearts, in our thoughts, and in our prayers.



## Dolly Sinatra Lodge #2400

Palm Springs, CA by Andy Casey

It's finally happened! What most of us have been waiting for year in, and year out! Joe La Porta, our current President was the 41st Honoree for Person of the year at this year's Anniversary Awards Dinner and Dance!! Having declined the honor for the last few years, perhaps longer, Joe finally accepted the honor after a letter write campaign in was launched to our Board of Directors in behalf of the nomination.

Our Master of Ceremonies, Patrick Evans, kicked of the evening recounting how he met Joe, and ended up joining the Lodge himself. He then asked Joe was there anything he could do for him, and Joe said he could perhaps feature the club on Patrick's local television show. The success of that segment brought so many people to the doors that when Patrick offered to do it again, Joe turned him down as he was now turning people away as he had a full house!

The award, so deserved, was presented by National President, Vera Ferrara Girolami, at the dinner/dance held April 8th at Agua Caliente Casino! A 150 plus electrified members attended his induction as Honoree of the Year. There was unquestionably a high level of excitement to honor Joe, because he has done so much for all of us!

The evening was magical! The dinner and service by the casino were wonderful. The entertainment was provided by the always engaging and incomparable Frank DiSalvo and his Palm Springs Swing Band. Frank, the consummate entertainer, and the band had everyone dancing and enjoying all evening.

The story of Joe, his personal career ascendance, and his joining the Lodge are well documented in previous articles. His successes as our Lodge President, from raising donations holding the Lodge together, literarily, financially, and enabling it to continue our charitable programs, such as the college scholarship program, have been well told in past stories.

It's the untold story of

this charismatic, dedicated and incredibly hard worker, just doing it. He's bringing in twenty five or so new members yearly! He knows all the members, and takes a personal interest in all his members. Frank DiSalvo, who himself should be a strong candidate for Honoree very soon, was brought to a meeting about six years ago. A fast friendship grew with Frank and Joe, and soon Frank was entertaining members too. Then Frank started inviting friends to come to the Lodge, myself included. Amongst them was Larry Capeloto, Michael DiAngelo and other Valley entertainers. Soon they were volunteering their services, and the weekly entertainment continued to blossom! These entertainers all had their own shows in town here too. If they had a special event going, well guess who would always be in their audience, supporting them, Joe and Laurie! He's genuinely liked, even in a thankless job for the most part, trying to keep all the members happy with seating arrangements, complaints of this and that and enduring it all with a smile. Think about trying to keep your own family happy, let alone 130 plus members, and you get an idea. Throw into the mix a life threatening bout with cancer, which is in remission thankfully now, one never knows for sure, and you begin to get a glimpse of your President. Pretty astounding!

That's a brief summary of why everyone was so enthused to see Joe finally get the award he eschewed for so long! Let us hope that he doesn't retire as our President anytime soon, at least not until we figure out who that someone is, who will be the last one out after each meeting, hauling out the garbage and turning off the lights!

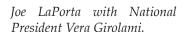
Speaking of turning off the lights, the Lodge closes for the summer after the final meeting May 24th and will reopen October 3. In a year that went all too fast we did end with a loud and happy bang, when Joe became our Honoree of the Year!



President Joe LaPorta with our First Lady.



Vice President Frank DiSalvo and wife Addy.







Joe LaPorta with Sadie Tambourine from State Board.



## Sacramento Lodge #1352

Sacramento, CA by Pam Stewart

March and April have been jam-packed with fun for the Sacramento Lodge. In March we had a scrumptious dinner of Corn Beef and Cabbage dinner, prepared by David Carboni and Dan Marinelli. In addition to all that, we had Cabbage Rolls prepared by Verna Carboni! Thank you to David, Dan, and Verna for preparing this delicious meal. David Carboni also treated all the members to St. Patrick Day scarfs and chocolates! The winner of the Ways and Means in March was Mike Coker. We were also blessed in March to have our Grand Lodge Queen Mary Lucido attend our dinner and speak during our meeting! At the meeting we acknowledged Pam Tedesco for 43 years of lodge membership and had a fun raffle with lots of great prizes. Thank you Verna Carboni for organizing our raffle this

April dinner we enjoyed a variety of soups (Clam Chowder, Minestrone, and Chicken Noodle) prepared by Deangela Smith and then afterward played Bingo! Thank you Deangela for the delicious dinner! We welcomed two new lodge officers at our meeting: Trustee Verna Carboni and Guard Chris Campbell. The winner of the Ways and Means for April was Louie Lodi. Congratulations to our Big Bingo Winners: David Carboni, Verna Carboni, LaRay Macchiavelli, Genny Arieta, Susan Dixon, and Shelia Marinelli!

Save The Date for our upcoming events: May's Dinner and Meeting on Wednesday, May 9 at 6:30 p.m. for enchiladas dinner! Bocce and Barbeque on Sunday, June 10 at the East Portal Park and our Annual Shrimp Feed on Saturday, October 20 in Rancho Cordova.

## Valley Of The Moon Lodge #1959

Sonoma, CA

by Susan Antonini -member at large susanantoniniart@gmail.com (feel free to email me with your stories)

#### GIOIA SANNITICA-CASERTA

Provence of Campania.... in Campania is the city of Naples, Vesuvius AND the grand Reggia di Caserta, called the Versailles of Italy built in the 18th Century by the will of Charles III Duke of Bourbon. The architect was Luigi Vanvitelli.

And to our wonderful surprise, cousins of Marie Rossi paid us a visit at our last SOI dinner. Maurizio Pascale & Ester Vignali, visiting from Gioia Sannitica-Caserta.

How fun it was to try our language skills on Maurizio, as he repeated in English, no doubt wishing that English was used instead.

#### LUSSINPICCOLO,

Norm our humor specialist....said his family came from this small island. First mentioned in 1398...under the name Malo selo. (small village)...In 1868 there were 11 shipyards, and became the place of the largest and developed merchant marine in the Adriatic Sea....but alas... things changed with the invention of the steam engine and a grape vine disease peronospora....passed under Austrian-Hungarian rule in 1797 till 1918 given to the Kingdom of Italy and in 1947 incorporated into Yugoslavia, now Croatia....I will sav no more....I am not sure when Norms family came to this country....but then that's another story.

#### MAUREEN MIGNAC-CO-DUTIL

was initiated at the meeting after the April dinner... what a delight...Her family came from Genoa, and a grandmother from the Italian part of Switzerland. In 1903 her father was born in Napa and the family had a small resort in Rutherford where they had little cabins.

## TO KEEP OR NOT TO KEEP.....

Two ways to keep volunteers are: ONE, have a good sense of humor and TWO, offer a little Schnapps...

THANK YOU to our guests Maurizio and Ester and to Doreen and John Amaral who gladly pitched in to serve the dinner....and the gift of hospitality of Marie Rossi in which little sparks of warmth are added to make us feel Italian! And to our Cook, Hans Strand...who likes to cook, eat, drink and be merry!

## PARTY TIME!! A HAPPY DAY!

71st SOI LODGE #1959 ANNIVERSARY DINNER.... MAY 21st.

A special tasty meal....Chicken Parmigiana

Special cake and Champagne!

MUSIC?? (maybe).... and Appetizers....

5pm "happy hour" and 6pm dinner.....

Do make your reservations early....

Call Karen....707-938-1295

## LOU SYLVESTRI....A SAD DAY!

passed away a couple of days

Lou & Nita and Mike & Karen would "double date" many times...Lou always supported the monthly dinners and Scholarship Dinners and would attend other Lodges events as well... He was a piece of the puzzle of the SOI dinners...he was a great fellow and will be missed.

## A QUOTE FROM MY ITALIAN BOOK

Usa, Riusa, Ricicla

Ciao!



State Deputy Gloria Garibaldi, New member Maureen Mignac-co-Dutil, Pres. Paul Grant.



Front to back- Visiting from Gioia Sannitica Italy Ester Vignali & Maurizio Pascale - Susan Antonini Kitchen helper and our Cook, Hans Strand.

Photo taken by Marie Rossi-Coordinator of all things Italian.



In support of all the men and women who have been called into military action.

You're in our hearts, in our thoughts, and in our prayers.



## Rodolfo Valentino Lodge #1449

Clovis, CA

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

Last Month: Our April Anniversary Pasta Fest was a huge success! Not to mention names, but, along with our usual faithful dinner lovers I spotted the Hanford Queen candidate plus past Central Valley Sons and Daughters of Italy Queens and court members; also noted were officers of other lodges; and, at least one Olympic Gold Medalist (swimming) that resides here in Clovis. Of course, all our diners are royalty to us and we truly enjoy hosting this party for everyone. Prizes and gifts were enjoyed by at least one in three of our



guests. Also enjoyed by was music by Rick DelCarlo and vocals by Josh Bravo; Rick's accordion renditions are always loved and appreciated. He will also be our feature for our Clovis Rodeo Parade float entry (which hasn't yet occurred at this writing). Our lodge wants to thank all those that helped in the setup of the hall, the preparation and serving of food, and last but not least, the cleanup after the party. Many great comments were aimed at Josh's singing prowess.

Italy is approximately 116,400 square miles (including Sicily and Sardinia), which is slightly larger than Arizona. The Sardinians believe they are not "true" Italian. Almost four fifths of Italy is mountainous.

The Ronald McDonald House is no longer accepting pull tabs as a donation, so, for future use, just leave them on the can to add weight to your usual recycling effort. The charity noted that their matching donor quit on them, and the price of the aluminum (\$0.25 per pound) was too low to allow

a reasonable pay-off for the effort. Thanks for helping in the past.

Italians created many cheeses, including gorgonzola, mozzarella, provolone, and ricotta. No one knows when the pizza was invented, but the people of Naples made it popular. Parmesan cheese originated in the area around Parma, Italy, Matthew Kutz is our 2018 Scholarship winner and will be pursuing major in music; His proud grandmother, Alberta Ferrer, presides as our Lodge 1449 Vice President.

This Month: Most likely, we will discuss lessons learned from last month's Pasta Fest; we know we have been doing this for many years, but we always learn a little more from each dinner. Many comments were heard at the hall at how great everything was this year, but we never want to forget that each dinner is a new experience and the next one can get better. Be there to contribute your critique, comments, and suggestions.

**Next Months:** June 18, July 16, and August 20, 2018

will be normal meetings with Pot Luck.

The Grand Lodge 2018 Convention starts June 28th at the Ontario Airport Double Tree Hotel. Our very own Bryan Watson is in charge of the Youth Committee and is limited to "cash-on-hand" when it comes to their tours and entertainment. Please do not feel shy about contributing to his effort; what our youth feels/believes in regard to the lodge will influence their choices in the future. Help to make this convention a fun-filled trip for them. Just make out a check to the Western Foundation.

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://rodolfo-valentinolodge.com/.

Spring is in the air and some rain! How lucky can we get! Remember the olden days, before malls and technology took over our world, when we could smell rain and fresh air and not exhaust fumes! And, at the Lodge, the wonderful, intoxicating smell in the air is an Italian dinner!

William Paca

Lodge #1960

Mountain View, CA by Carolyn Franklin

Mike Ravizza's baked ham and scalloped potatoes with carrots was just the right meal for a cool April evening. Rich, soft, creamy potatoes wrapped around a chunk of ham! Alongside Mike, Carlo Marenco lent his magic touch to the festa. Always a winning team. Paula Chidichimo brought an almond salad with fresh spring greens and blue cheese, the perfect touch to compliment a hot, tasty meal; a chilled salad crowns any piping hot dinner. Real food for real people!

The lemon-filed sheet cake, brought by Russ Genna was the end of another perfect meal. Italians mangiamo insieme per vivere e non per mangiare. The home made meal is always done with the best ingredients, and love is the best one of all.

I just read an article that said the Italian culture centers around a passion for food and wine. Is there a better way to enjoy your dinner? Someone once said, "Keep a man fed with a good meal beside a beautiful woman and there would be no more wars." Why hasn't someone thought of this already? Due data di vino e un pedal al medico!

We were privileged to have two special guests for the evening, Cino Chiegia and his grand nephew, Jeff Gilliland. Jeff authored a book about his great Uncle Cino, "Four Dollars and a Dream". Cino was a fisherman in Italy during the Second World War, when at the tender age of 18 he joined the merchant marines and left Italy for America. His adventures took him to

Oakland where he was employed by the Oakland Scavenger Company. Later, he became a share holder at that same company. He came to America with \$4.00 (cash) and lived the American dream. This is one of those success stories that make America the great country it is today.

Thank you both for a wonderful story and sharing our wonderful, family evening.

# Columbia Lodge #1940 Order Sons & Daughters of Italy Proudly Invite you To Celebrate as we Ho

Proudly Invite you To Celebrate as we Honor National President Vera Ferrara Girolami

Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Featuring Live Music by the

## The Lou Roselli Band

Special Menu to include:

Assorted Cold Cuts & Cheese Anti-Pasto Platter, Green Salad, Pasta Bolognese & a Special Dessert by Dianda's Bakery

Entree Choice of:

Prime Rib w/ Au Jus
Or Filet of Salmon

No Host Cocktails @ 6:00 & Dinner @ 7:00 - Peninsula Italian Social Club, 100 N. B Street, San Mateo, CA

Price:

\$60.00 per Person

Reservations must be made by Monday June 11th, 2018

For Questions or Reservations please call Angelo Fanucchi at 650-228-6013 or Arlene Nunziati at 650-342-3313

I PLAN ON ATTENDING THE SONS OF ITALY DINNER DANCE ON SATURDAY, JUNE 16<sup>TH,</sup> 2018

\_\_\_\_# of Guests @ \$60.00 ea

Please Make checks payable to "Columbia Lodge #1940 "& send to Angelo Fanucchi 3721 Wilshire Ave, San Mateo, CA 94403

Prime Rib \_\_\_\_\_\_ea. Filet of Salmon\_\_\_\_ea.

I AM ENCLOSING MY CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$\_\_\_\_\_

NAME:

I WISH TO SIT WITH:

## Pugliese Lodge #1375

Los Angeles, CA by Mary Lotito

#### PUGLIESE LODGE "DAY AT THE RACES"

On March 4, 2018 the Pugliese Lodge invaded Santa Anita race track with 200 guests hoping to bring home that green stuff we work so hard for. It was a beautiful day and under the supervision of Mary Lotito and ably assisted by hubby, Chris, with co-chairs Carla and Bill Komar, all were ready for the races to start. You could feel the enthusiasm in the atmosphere where the guests were studying the forms on each horse running. Some bet on the jockey, some the colors the jockey wears, or the color of the horse. No matter which way they make their selection it is their preference and some are very successful. I always think it is a guessing game. The owners don't even know when the horse will run. This is what makes horse racing so intriguing and fascinating because of the guessing game.

The catering was provided by Portofino Trattoria, propitiator, Nick D'Egido, assisting in setting up and serving, son Nick Jr. and sonin-law, Giancarlo and a few friends. They were lucky in winning a few raffle gifts.

The raffle table was loaded with beautiful gifts were donated by the officers of the Pugliese Lodge. One of the gift's donated by John Donato and Paul Bodnar was bid by silent auction. It was valued at \$175.00 and It went for \$150.00, thank you lucky one.

We are grateful for the people who helped and ticket sellers who made our day successful; Mary and Chris, Carla and Bill Komar, Alexa Lotito, Michael and Edithe Digiuro, Karen and John De Santis with help from Grand-

daughter, Sophia Suitor, who chalked the winning numbers, Anna Lee Broderson, Sean Dankowsky, Bonnie Dixson, Brandon and Connie (Lotito) Weil and Leslie Emge. Our Queen, Sarah, was there with mother and sister. New member, Paul Giuliano, had four generations attending the races, hope they come again. We'll be looking for you. Attending was our Grand Deputy, Nina Zonni and hubby, Marco. The Hacienda Lodge brought in 6 members, thank you President Bill Viverto. Big ticket sellers Karen and John De Santis and Tony De Santis. Our appreciative gratitude, many THANKS!!!

Michael Gatti, has a new title, "GREAT UNCLE". First born baby girl in the immediate family, CONGRATULA-TIONS!!!

Carla Komar and daughter, Alexa, enjoyed ten days of southern comfort. A Christmas gift to them from hubby, Bill Komar. They spent days in Savannah Gerogia, Charleston, South Carolina and Nashville, Tennessee. Foods were definitely different, and most enjoyable. Looking for another quick visit.

Silvio Pierotti, enjoyed a fine happy birthday party at Dipillis Italian restaurant in Rosemead. Party given by wife, Yolanda. Family and friends made it an unfogetable happy occasion. A two digit year!!! Happy year from all of us.

Ciao Mary M. Lotito THOSE OF YOU THAT DID NOT WIN, BETTER LUCK NEXT YEAR.

## 2017-2018 "IL LEONE" Sponsors

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

Marco Zonni

Nina Zonni

### "NECROLOGIO"

Member's Name Joe La Banca	Lodge Hacienda	Lodge 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
Antheny 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

## Centinela Valley Lodge #1991

Torrance, CA byAnnette Porter

Our April Queen's Coronation dinner dance was a beautiful evening. We had a wonderful lasagna dinner. The food was fantastic! Thanks to chef John Barbera and the members that helped to put this event together. The hall was decorated in Dodger Blue as our new Queen loves the Dodgers. We

had eight of our past queens in attendance, to add to the importance of this event to our Lodge. They were: Patty Lavezzari Perez, Louise Pampuro, Lori Scalabrini Blackwell, Mary Grace Teramo Grammatico, Lisa Vaona-Case, Gilma Vaona, Britany Porter Garnica, and Nicole Vaona. Nicole Vaona, being

the most recent past Queen, crowned our new Queen, Marissa Lavezzari. All the queens looked so lovely. Our entertainment for the evening was provided by Tony "The Sicilian Band". Tony is fantastic and he always has people up and dancing. A big "Thank you" to the following lodges that came to celebrate

this special evening with us: America Lodge, Anaheim Lodge and Saddleback Lodge.

Our members make our events as successful as they always are.

Our Anniversary is scheduled for Saturday, May 27th. Invites have gone out to the State Officers and

each Lodge. The menu will include your choice of Prime Rib or Chicken Wellington. The price will be \$40.00 for adults and \$20.00 for children under 12. We will be honoring Brian Sinaguglia and the Memory of Lenny Sinaguglia this year.



Our new lodge queen Marissa Lavezzari and her father David Lavezzari walking together before she is crowned.



Would like to introduce our new queen Marissa Lavezzari.

lodge.



President Annette Porter and our chef for the evening John Barbera and his wife Italia.



Past lodge queen Nicole Vaona crowning our new queen Marissa Lavezzari.



Our past queen Mary Grace and her husband Joe Grammatico.



Our new lodge queen Marissa and her family.



Our queens past (8) Patty, Louise, Lori, Mary Grace, Lisa, Gilma, Britany and Nicole and current queen Marissa. It was a beautiful coronation.



Linda Enneman (America Lodge) and Joe Rossi with his friend dancing with the youth.

## Shasta Lodge #2453

Redding, CA by Carole Dellaragione

The last two months have been a little sad for us at Shasta Lodge. We lost have lost five past and present members. Dan Goode joined our lodge in 2007, transferring here from Washington State. Robert "Bob" Allen joined in 2001. He spent a few years serving adult beverages, but could usually be seen at Allen's Golf Course. Dottie Iagmin joined us in 2009 and enjoyed coming to many lodge events.

Paul Bosetti joined in 1984 just after Shasta Lodge received our charter. Paul served as President for over two years moving from the Vice Presidency when we lost or President. Joyce Pereira had been a member since 1988. She was our first Lady when husband Ken was our President, and she was our Sunshine Lady for many years. May they all rest in peace.

On a pleasant note, we are about halfway through our bocce league. It is surprising how many good teams there are in our area. We are certainly enjoying getting together to play, win or lose, and making some new friends along the way.

We will have our first Paesano Days organization meeting for our big event that will be held on September 21st and 22nd this year. We have multiple co-chairs headed up by our Vice President John DiMatteo once again. We are all looking forward to another great event this year.

We will be awarding two \$1000 scholarships to two very deserving young men, both junior members, at our meeting in June.

Our convention delegates are set and we are making travel plans. Hope to see some old friends, and have a productive meeting this year.

Once again some of our members will help the Asphalt Cowboys serve breakfast to about 10,000 people on Friday of Rodeo Week in May. Others of us will be helping our collegiate Colt 45 "Boys of Summer" baseball team the ends of May as they begin their summer season.

Wishing all you Moms a very special Mother's Day!

Ciao, your friends from Shasta Lodge.

## Pulgiese Lodge #1375

Los Angeles, CA by Francesca Taylor

Sarah Grace Taylor, Pulgiese Lodge Queen and Jr. Member of OSDIA, Completes her Girl Scout Gold Award, titled "Connessioni Italiane – Italian Connections"

"I want to promote the Italian language and to help the people in Italy who were affected by the earthquakes of 2016 and 2017," comments Sarah Taylor, 15, a Senior Girl Scout in Troop #28935 of Santa Monica, and a sophomore student at Notre Dame Academy in West Los Angeles.

I have been taking Italian lessons with my sisters since we were small. Our Italian heritage is important to us and to our whole family. We love studying "la bella lingua" and we have had a really great time on our trips to Italy.

For my project I started

a new bilingual Italian – English Girl Scout troop with the help of my mom. We made a Gemellaggio, a twinship, with a Scout troop in Italy, and we have corresponded with them and learned about what they do in Scouting.

Italy has earthquakes and so does California. I learned from my family about the serious quakes that Los Angeles and other California cities have experienced. When I heard about the "terremoti" in Central Italy, I wanted to assist the Scouts there, because they helped so much in the times of disaster and their

scout bases were used as refuges for the community.

I taught my bilingual troop about earthquakes. I raised money by selling Girl Scout cookies and got rescue blankets and special flashlights that are water-activated from the Red Cross. I brought these items to Umbria and presented them to the scout leaders there, for use in their bases.

I am currently working on a website in Italian and English that will educate young people in Italy and in California about earthquakes, how they are caused and how to make the damage less by doing retrofitting. This is so important in Italy because so much art in Italy is on the walls of churches and other buildings that can get destroyed in an earthquake. On my trip to Italy this month, I visited Norcia and I was able to see the places where stone walls fell down, bringing lots of beautiful artwork with it.

I will keep working on this issue even as my Gold project is nearly finished. It is really great to have this connection and to be able to make a difference for the two countries that I love, America and Italy.











SENATOR MIKE MCGUIRE (/)



## Senator McGuire recognizes renowned 'Pasta King' during ceremony on Senate Floor

Thursday, April 12, 2018

**Sacramento**, **CA** - Today, Senator Mike McGuire and the entire State Senate recognized a Northern California legend, Art Ibleto - the Pasta King. Art was recognized for his decades of contributions and generosity to his community.

"The Pasta King's life story, his generous contribution to community and his achievements - all earned, never given to him - are why we're coming together to honor his great work," Senator McGuire said during the acknowledgement. "From the beginning like most who have immigrated to this amazing country, Art has always given back. He made his hometown, his county and our state stronger - through his generous spirit, his love of community and his love for people. For the past several decades, Mr. Ibleto has, on thousands of occasions, provided free meals to fundraising events, raising millions for worthwhile causes and our region's most vulnerable."

Mr. Ibleto is an Italian immigrant born in Argentina and raised in Northern Italy. He was only 11 years old when dictator, Benito Mussolini thrust Italy into World War II. At the Age of 17 Mr. Ibleto joined the Italian Army, but later fled and joined the resistance, slowing the German Army's deadly march on his home country.

Mr. Ibleto immigrated to the United States in 1949 and he has lived in Sonoma County ever since. Now 91, Art has always been driven and has managed several enterprises including a butcher shop, Christmas tree lot, and limousine service, prior to opening the renowned Ibleto's Spaghetti Palace on the Sonoma County Fairgrounds. Since the 1970's Mr. Ibleto has distinguished himself as a prominent restaurateur, caterer, maker of fine fresh and frozen Italian foods, and winegrape grower.

Throughout the North Bay Firestorm, and during many other tough times for our community, Art Ibleto generously gave back to his community by providing nourishing food to people in need and all at no price.

**Attached photo:** Senator McGuire, Senator Bill Dodd and Assemblymember Marc Levine presented Art Ibleto with an official Legislative Resolution for his many years of commitment to his community.



#### KING IN THE SENATE:

Thursday morning, state Sen. Mike McGuire will welcome onto the Senate floor Sonoma County "Pasta King" Art Ibleto.

The lawmaker from Healdsburg will honor Art, who's 91, for all the people he fed for free after the fires, and for all the money his pasta feeds have raised for relief efforts locally and around the world.

You can watch the 9 a.m. presentation by going to senate. ca.gov and clicking at the upper left, "Live Streams in Progress." Then, go to "Senate Floor Session."



## C. Colombe Lodge #1315

Antioch, CA by Zelda LeFrak-Belleci



The Crab Feed hosted by C. Colombo Lodge #1315 was a roaring success." The social hall of Holy Rosary School was jam packed with guests attending this annual event/ Part of the crowd pictured above are Maureen Perkinson, Zelda LeFrak-Belleci, Beth Williams, Dennis Clarke, Lanette Clarke and Marjorie Tonin.



Highlight at the C. Colombo Crab Feed was the dessert table with a big array of goodies to be auctioned off to the highest bidder. Seen above is Janet Castillo bringing in her lemon bars made with home grown lemons picked of the tree in her own yard.



Bartenders Joe Fernandez and Michael Giambona, at the far right, were a hardworking part of the committee hosting Annual C. Colombo Crab Fee. The sold out event was held in mid-March with ticket sales under the direction of Carol Esposito.



The Annual Crab Feed id C. Colombo's big fundraiser of the year! The event is chaired by Edna Esposito, President of Lodge #1315. Originally the idea of the late Harry Brochii, the event has been held for almost 50 years! Pictured above is President Edna greeting guest Ellen Creighton.

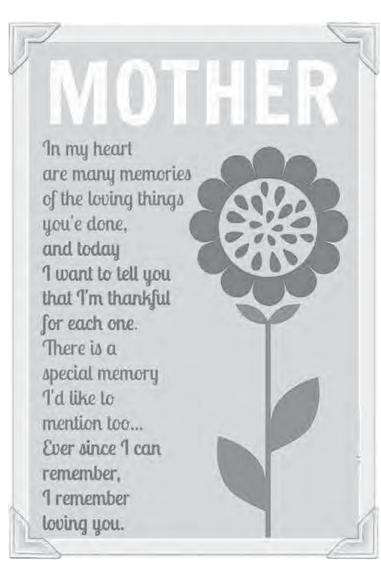


C. Colombo Lodge #13155 has been a longtime supporter of the Italian Language program at Deer Valley High School in Antioch, California. Students fro the Italian class volunteered to help at the Lodge fundraiser. Studenti Adamari Franco, Emily Vazquez, Zack Mustar, Alexis Semararo, Antonietta Rivera, e la Profesoressa Amelia Fitzgerald are pictured above. The young people were part of the cadre of servers at the recent Crab Feed.

# ATTENTION PLEASE

Please make sure that articles are sent to debbie@sanddgraphics.com. and cc Apampuro@comline.com. I would also like articles sent in word to me and PDF to Andy if possible.

We appreciate all your help. Thank you, Andy Pampuro Debbie Ure



## Colombo-Stella Lodge #1149

Fresno, CA Olivia DeLiddo Gallegos, President

Hello, everyone. Last month I attended Rodolfo Valentino's Anniversary Fundraiser in Clovis with Yolanda Canzio and Grace Barra. Congratulations to President Carol Watson and her members for putting on such a wonderful event. The dinner was delicious as always, they had great entertainment and a very large raffle. As their Deputy I am always so proud of them!

At our last meeting, we voted to do away with the dinner potluck. We decided that if anyone wanted to bring some desserts or finger foods, that would be fine.

May is the month we will be making our donations to Valley Children's Hospital. This is what our September dinner raises money for. I will report next month on it.

Also coming up, Convention in June.

We had a special guest last month, Head State Trustee Central, Pauline Richmond made her official visit to our Lodge. She gave us a lot of good information for membership retention, upcoming events at Convention, and the last Grand Council meeting. We all need to know the goings on in our organization, and the information comes from the top. We are losing members at an alarming rate, and if this organization is important to you, we need you to take this seriously, now, before it is too late. Ask what you can do to help? Bring in a new member.

Winner of our scratcher was Ann Anderson. Name drawn for the progressive jackpot was Pam Lindegren. Since she was not present, the jackpot rolls over to \$15.00 for next month. Next meeting is May 15th, so hope to see you there. Until then, Ciao!

