

2022



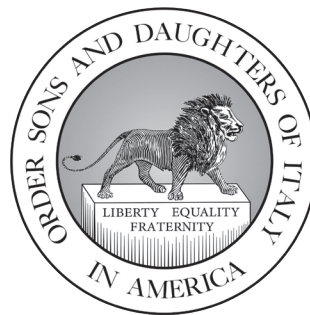
# IL LEONE

JULY/AUGUST 2022

VOL. 75 NO. 7

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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

## Message From the State President



State President  
Barbara Wisniewski

I am still in awe of my Grand Council and all the Delegates that attended our 85th Convention.

Ordinarily, our editor, Andy Pampuro, would write his synopsis of our Convention to go with the pictures he took. This year he was unable to do that, so Arlene Nunziati took all of the pictures, and I was drafted to do the synopsis. Thank you Arlene. I hope we did the Convention justice.

I want to thank all the Officers, Committee Chairs, Past Presidents, Lodge Presidents, Delegates and Guests that attended and contributed to a wonderful time for all. Business was taken care of and a Lynn Lawrence Murphy, our Convention Chair and Lori Rossi, our Recording Secretary made sure that everything ran smoothly, and a great time was had by all.

I must comment on the Theme Night "Take me out to the ballgame!" I haven't

had that much fun in a long time. The singing by our own delegates and Officers was amazing. A special thanks to Frankie DiSalvo, Dolly Sinatra Lodge, Lee Sparks, Vergilio Lodge, and Louie Lodi, Grand Lodge Third Vice President. You gentleman made the difference. I would be remiss if I didn't mention Addy Walker, Dolly Sinatra Lodge. Your marching and singing brought us together in a special way. Thanks, Ray Bini, for the "Rookie of the Year 2022" trophy. It is in a place of honor in my office!

So many things happened at Convention, and some is a blur! I am looking forward to getting the minutes from our Recording Secretary, Lori Rossi, so I can have it all straight in my mind.

I can't end this message without speaking about our National President, Robert Bianchi, Esq. His Dad and mine were the best of friends. We share many stories of things that happened with them. Bob inspired our Delegates to feel that love of the Order again. His love of the Order is contagious. Thank you, National President Robert for attending our Convention and sharing your vision. Our Grand Lodge of California will be behind you.

Thank you, all, who helped to make this 85th Convention one to remember.

Till next month  
Fraternally  
Barbara

## News from the Central

Pauline Richmond



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our 85th State Grand Convention was very productive and successful with business reported on and approved. State President Barbara Fumosa Wisniewski did a wonderful job running the sessions with a cheerful outlook!

Thank you with appreciation to: Lynn Lawrence Murphy our Convention Coordinator, who did a fantastic job in ensuring everything was in place and on schedule with meals and keeping everyone happy! To Lori Rossi, State Recording Secretary for the preparation before convention. To Ervin, Grand Lodge Office Manager working with Lori and Lynn in preparation for convention and staffing the office at convention: answering questions and taking care of any issues that may have occurred.

Meeting in person, visiting and connecting with friends was very fun.

So as not to have repeated information about convention, I am just sharing highlights:

We were honored to have our National President, Robert A. Bianchi, Esq. in attendance at our convention, plus Philip J. Privitera, National SIF Trustee and son Payton Privitera.

Opening of convention on Thursday morning – the National Anthems of United States and the Republic of Italy. The National Pres-

ident, Robert A. Bianchi Esq, was escorted by the Mistress & Master of ceremonies to the Dias and was introduced and he then was asked to speak. He reported on what National is doing for US and what has been accomplished in the past year!

After the presentation of reports – the general meeting was, closed – the opening of the Western Foundation – with committee reports – presented and closed. Then re-opening of the general meeting – with committee reports.

Discussions and questions on – By-laws changes; The delegates agreed and passed the change removing fines for delegates who do not attend sessions.

Selling of the building; It was Voted to remove the Five million dollar minimum, and not give it to the Western Foundation, but directly to the Grand Council and Building Investment Committee, to move forward on the selling of the building. The proceeds are to be deposited into the Grand Lodge fund.

Friday, we had the Royal Court of the Golden Lion luncheon recognizing and donating \$2,500.00 to the Gary Sinise Foundation. Their mission is to serve our nation by honoring our defenders, veterans, first responders, their families, and those in need. They create and support unique programs designed to entertain, educate, inspire, strengthen, and build communities.

Saturday at the Black and White Ball and Twenty-first Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony our National President dedicated his speech to the youth/scholarship recipients. It was a wonderful inspiring speech for all not only for

## News from the North

Louis Lodi

State Third Vice President



The OSDIA Convention in June was a success, and everyone had a wonderful time! Congratulations to Barbara Wisniewski, Lynn Lawrence Murphy, Lori Rossi, and Ervin Siach for all their hard work and dedication in making this event a success!

On July 16th, the Gold Country Lodge #2705 celebrated their 26th Anniversary. To celebrate this milestone, they honored one of the founding members, Angelo Battaglia. He unfortunately passed away just a few weeks prior to his 100th Birthday.

Angelo was born on July 21st, 1922, in Yonkers, New York to Guiseppi and Girolama Battaglia. His parents had left Sicily to escape the Mafia in 1906. In 1929 the Battaglia family set out to California and ended up in Pasadena. Can you imagine a family of 2 girls, a boy and their parents traveling cross country in the dead of winter on dirt roads? Angelo went to grade school and high school in Pasadena. He attended both Pasadena Jr. College and The Army Air Force Flight School at the same time. He graduated from both schools in 2 years.

In 1943 Angelo joined the Army Air Force. He trained to be a B-17 pilot. It was in the service when he got his nickname "Bat" because no one could pronounce his last name Battaglia. When









Have a great summer!!



Barbara Wisniewski State President and Husband Ken

Garibaldi- Meucci Museum

Saturday July 9th the Museum opened an exhibit of Gary Pizzolo’s art work that has expressionist roots and explores ideas about perspective; that is, how we see and interpret the world, visually, emotionally, and intellectually. Pizzolo is currently working at the College Staten Island College in the Department of Media Culture. He has a Bachelor of Science in Studio Arts, Fine Arts, and Master of Arts in Liberal Studies.

The Museum celebrated the 215th Birthday of Giuseppe Garibaldi with a presentation from Dr. Francis Curcio, of the faculty at Queen’s College, University of New York City. Dr. Curcio has authored and co-authored numerous book and scholarly articles.

The Museum will hold a virtual conversation with New York’s Bestselling Author “Adriana Trigiani” on September 7th. More info on this to follow.

Joy Bruno  
CA State Chair / Nation Overseer

News from the Central  
cont. from page 1

the youth. It reminded all of us why we are members of OSDIA. He remarked how Italian Immigrants were treated when they came to America and about discrimination for jobs.

National SIF Trustee, Philip Privitera presented the Privitera Family Charitable Foundation in memory of Jean Privitera scholarship for \$2,500.00 to Preston Boswell from El Diamante High School in Visalia, CA. Philip also, donated a check for \$10,000.00 to the Western Foundation.

The Royal Pageant is coming up!!! Are you ready?

Yes, 2023 is the year we want to have a Royal Pageant, so it is time to get all your Lodges thinking about selecting one of your youth members to represent your Lodge as a King or Queen. The age range is between 15-26, this is a way to highlight our youth and the great news is that our committee this year consists of mostly young people, so they know what to do. Your contestant must raise at least \$2,000 to be considered part of the contest. Remember this is not only a fund raiser for the Grand Lodge but for your local lodge as well. We must have a minimum of 5 contestants to make the Pageant a reality.

Anyone who wants to have a contestant may contact me for the full rules, but we must know what lodges will have a contestant by the end of September 2022. We will be in Reno for the Convention next year and there will be planned things to do for the contestants through that week. We want the youth to be able to be key members at convention and highlight them to our delegates. We also want to them to get to know each other and have some fun together. Our young members are thinking of events and things to do as a group at convention...it will be a special time.

Please contact me, Pamela Ricci at pam@riccihomes.com with the information about your candidate. What I will need to know is Lodge name and number, Name of contestant, parents if a minor, and contact information, phone#, mailing address and email address. My daughter and niece were queens of our Lodge and enjoyed the experience, but we want to really make this a memorable experience for all. Our current Queen Brianna Simon is on board with us, so you know there are great young people out there willing to share their experience and make it a fun time.

Thank you for your interest in the Royal Pageant and I hope to hear from many of you soon.

Fraternally,  
Ciao...  
Pamela Ricci



SAVE THE DATE!

OUR 100TH  
ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION

Join us for dinner entertainment  
and a silent auction

September 17th  
6 p.m - 10 p.m.

Fresno Fairgrounds  
More details to come.

PLEASE CONTACT OLIVIA DELIDDO  
AT (559) 312-5151 IF YOU HAVE ANY  
QUESTIONS.

Roseville Lodge # 1413

Roseville, CA  
by Jan AbrianI

It was an evening to remember! State Third Vice President, Louis Lodi, swore in 15 new members to our Lodge under a balloon arch of green, red and white, the colors of the Italian flag.

There were over 70 people in attendance enjoying a delicious dinner of homemade lasagna, prepared by our lodge’s expert chefs.

There was electricity in the air welcoming our new members and joy in the growth of our lodge.



News from the North  
cont. from page 1

the War ended in 1945 Bat took advantage of the GI Bill and entered Kansas University where he met his beautiful wife, Mary Jane. They were married on June 4th, 1948. After having three daughters they settled in Placerville in 1964. Bat and Mary Jane were married 71 years. They had rich and rewarding lives sharing great time with their family and friends.

I only met him a few times, but I will always remember his friendliness and positiveness towards people. Bat always had a big smile for everyone. The Sons and Daughters of Italy have lost a wonderful brother, but God has received another great soul. We will miss him and remember him with love and friendship. Remember to embrace every moment spent with our friends & family and make sure you call someone you have not seen or talked to in a while just to say hello.

Ciao for now,



Attention Presidents and Officers...



Lodge Events Calendar:

Please Do Not schedule any  
events for the 3rd weekend of  
March and September. This time  
frame is always left open to our  
Grand Council Meetings.





Sons and Daughters of Italy  
Dolly Sinatra Lodge

# Golf Tournament

Monday November 14, 2022  
Indian Canyons Golf Resort  
1100 E. Murray Canyons Dr. Palm Springs, CA 92264

**LUNCH BUFFET \$43**

Ceasar Salad, French Garlic Bread,  
Chef's Sauteed Vegetables,  
Chipotle BBQ Braised Meatballs  
and Chicken Picata, Penne Pasta Alfredo,  
Penne Pasta Primavera,  
Sliced Fresh Fruit Display  
and House Tiramisu

Joe LaPorta - 760.219.9171 | joeydoor@dc.rr.com

Check only - No Credit Card      Profits to Western Foundation  
Make check payable to Dolly Sinatra Lodge



Sons and Daughters of Italy  
Dolly Sinatra Lodge

# Golf Tournament

Monday November 14, 2022  
Indian Canyons Golf Resort  
1100 E. Murray Canyons Dr. Palm Springs, CA 92264

## YOUR SPONSOR

**\$100 NAME HERE \$100**

Contact Joe LaPorta 760-219-9171  
or email: joeydoor@dc.rr.com

Check only - No Credit Card      Profits to Western Foundation  
Make check payable to Dolly Sinatra Lodge

**Rodolfo Valentino**  
**Lodge #1449**  
by Carol Watson, President  
Lou Catallo, Historian;  
(559) 299-2205 lcatallo@aol.com

The secret to walking on water is to know where the stones are.

Last month (June) we met at Luna's, but illness took its' toll on who could attend; the folks that did show up, however, had a pretty good time. Meri regaled us with stories of growing up in Sicily, in sight of Mt. Etna spewing away in the distance, as it is now. Her Dad's experience in the Italian army was very interesting. ...Reminder: Our meetings are now on the first Wednesday of the month.

With a sad heart, I report on the passing of Victor DeLuca; though he was not a recent active member, his dad, Ciriaco (Charles) DeLuca was one of the original applicants, along with Jim Sirimarco and Antonio Schiboni, to the National OIS to create the Clovis branch of the Sons of Italy in 1926 (we were accepted in February 1927). Victor's sister, Verona, is a current long-time member. He served 11 years with the National guard and was 94 at his passing.

United Lodges of the Central Valley held a meeting last month in Visalia to a great turnout; Clovis was represented by Isabel Ronzano, Mike Catallo, and Lou Catallo; Election of officers took place, notably, Pauline Richman remains as President, Lou Catallo as Trustee, and Isabel Ronzano as Sgt at Arms. Most of the discussion focused on the upcoming Grand Lodge Convention in Anaheim. The Hanford lodge has submitted three proposals regarding lodge convention participation and bi-annual conventions instead of annual conventions, and Hanford was requesting support for their positions. The Fresno lodge is now advertising their 100th year celebration, to be held at the Fresno County Fairgrounds in September.

**Italian Slang:** un coniglio ( rabbit ) is a coward; una civetta (owl) is a flirt; .un pesce (fish) is a person that doesn't talk; un'oca (goose) is silly or flighty; and, un pollo da spennare is a chicken waiting to be plucked, or, a mark that can be taken advantage of.

**National Scholarships** are again being offered; check this issue of Il Leone for details.



Sons and Daughters of Italy  
Dolly Sinatra Lodge

# Golf Tournament

Monday November 14, 2022  
Indian Canyons Golf Resort  
1097 E. Murray Canyons Dr. Palm Springs, CA 92264

**Registration - Opens 7am**

8:00 am - Shotgun start 4 Man Scramble

**\$150 Members   \$175 Non-Members   \$43 Lunch Only**

*Includes green fees, cart, range balls, Italian Buffet*

For info call or email  
Joe LaPorta - 760.219.9171 - joeydoor@dc.rr.com

Dolly Sinatra Lodge P.O. Box 637 Palm Springs, CA 92263

Name (Sign up in 1-4 Players)	Phone/Email	Handicap USGA Index*	No Handicap	Division Your Age on July 22, 2019
1.		#		
2.		#		
3.		#		
4.		#		

Check only - No Credit Card   Profits to Western Foundation Sons of Italy  
Make check payable to Dolly Sinatra Lodge

**Become a Sponsor of Il Leone!**



## Rice

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

A popular alternative to pasta and very important in Italian regional cooking, rice is a close relative to wheat. Rice and wheat belong to the same family of grasses. Rice can come in various shapes and sizes. It is mostly starch, low in proteins and fats. It can be made into flour, but it doesn't work for making bread.

Instead, rice is used to make rice balls (arancini) or small rice "cakes" In Naples rice balls are called "pall' e riso." Rice is boiled and served as the chief ingredient in several dishes. A dish famous to Venice and now to international cooking is rice and peas (risi e bisi). Rice is added to soups. It is served with meats and fish. And it is also used for desserts, such as rice pudding.

Rice has been grown and consumed for centuries. Rice fields are kept flooded most of the growing season and drained when the rice is almost ready for harvest. The plant thrives in warmth and sunlight. It is the chief cereal crop of much of Asia. It was introduced in Sicily by the Arabs.

The white rice commonly consumed is polished, that is, the brown hull has been removed. Unpolished rice is more nutritional because the hull contains vitamins and minerals. Rice is a valuable commodity in the market. Some people make drinks from rice grain. The Japanese make a liquor called sake from rice. Even rice straw has value. It is woven into hats, shoes, and matting.

Rice is grown in the southern United States and in California. The United States is an exporter of rice. Olive oil, garlic, and black pepper are the spices commonly used by Italians to enhance the taste of rice. Rice customarily thrown at the bride and groom at a wedding is done to bring them fertility and good luck. The tradition dates back to the ancient Romans. To dream of eating rice signifies abundance and plenty. You may soon receive news of an elopement or a wedding.



PHOTO: Arancino (Wikipedia)

## Eureka Lodge # 1274

Eureka, CA  
by Joe Bonino

Eureka Lodge is helping the Humboldt Crabs baseball team with their Italian American cultural theme night baseball game on Friday July 29th at 7PM at the Arcata Ballpark. Please let our Italian American night committee chair, Gina Luzzi, know if you would like to attend the game or assist with decorations, our merchandise sales booth, or baking homemade biscotti that we will be sell at the game. Gina's contact is ginaluzzi12@gmail.com or 415-730-0593.

Tickets for the game are \$10.

Our next meeting will be on July 26th at 7PM. And the meeting after that will be on August 23rd at 7PM.

Happy Summer

## It's Not A Vacation!

Commentary by Larry Dutto  
Roma Lodge President

I used to begin a lot of my articles with a Webster Dictionary definition. Remember those thick books with definitions of words in the English Language. Now, it is much easier to get out your iPhone and use Siri to ask, "What is a vacation?" Just like that, you will get a response indicating a vacation is, "an extended period of leisure and recreation, especially one spent away from home or in traveling!" Sounds like fun!

I must chuckle when I hear members of the Order indicate, "attending the Grand Lodge Convention is like going on vacation." Yes, the convention is held away from home and yes, there are parts of it with the sole purpose of providing leisure and recreation along with fraternity, the main tenet of the organization. However, to call it a vacation is a stretch.

When I spoke at the convention on behalf of our Roma Lodge membership, I emphasized making the convention "positive versus punitive" to get more participation. In my archives I found the Grand Lodge convention book from 1999. There were 73 lodges, with a membership of 8,533 and 285 delegates, grand council members and commission members. Now, 22 years later we have 42 lodges with only 3698 members! Of the 40 lodges in attendance, only 22 had full representation and 8 were not even represented at all!

Other than the Mail Box presentation and soliciting a statewide membership chair, the last business item at the convention, why weren't we spending the bulk of our time on ideas how to get more members and lodges involved?

I think we can all agree we have to turn this trend around or there may not be a Grand Lodge in our future! Here is a start:

1. Complete the convention on Saturday at noon. This would require the Black and White Ball to be held on Friday night. This would allow delegates to travel home on Saturday. We had delegates this year who had to wait until Sunday afternoon at 5 p.m. to get a flight home. This would save each delegate \$200 for hotel and parking and our lodge alone \$1,200 if we send 6 delegates.
2. Have breakout sessions for local lodge officers on one day to share ideas on how to improve their own lodges. This would allow local lodges to send these officers for one day, attend the evening event and return home the next day to save travel costs. These people may want to go to future conventions if we give them a learning experience.
3. Hold the Royal Pageant every year and not every other year. This would allow the contestants to serve only one year and increase participation. Make fundraising a part of the contest rather than all the contest.
4. Donations to various charities is a great thing. However, we wasted a lot of time listening to Lodge X giving \$25 to the Western Foundation Scholarship Fund. Have lodges turn in donation sheets on the first day of the convention allowing those in charge to inventory the donations and printout a list for each delegate by the last session. The list could be read, and local lodges could be recognized at that time if so needed. This year we would have finished well before noon.
5. Allow lodges to send as many participants as they would like. We had voting cards that were never used. They would not have to buy the entire convention packet and choose events they wanted to attend. I know it is a bigger headache for the planners of the convention but would increase participation.

I would encourage other delegates to submit their ideas on how we can increase participation at the Grand Lodge Convention. I know we book hotels two years in advance; however, we can change the way we do things and reduce costs to local lodges. We all need to work together to ensure we have a future. The convention is NOT a vacation as we have a lot of work to do to make it better.





# 85th Grand Lodge of California Convention

The 85th Grand Lodge of California Convention was held in the beautiful Double Tree by Hilton Anaheim/ Orange County California. Our Host Lodges were the Anaheim Lodge #2076 and Renaissance Lodge #2259. They did a wonderful job making us feel welcomed.

On Wednesday we held the Bocce Tournament. Everyone had a wonderful time, and the cream did rise to the top with the winning team of Louie Lodi (First Vice President), Al Girolami (Columbia Lodge), Dan Marinelli (Sacramento Lodge), and Don Craddock (Northern Solano Lodge)

Our opening day was Thursday, June 23rd. Mariann Aita, President of the Anaheim Lodge was our Grand Herald and had the honor of introducing all the State Committee Chairs as well as the Grand Lodge and National Officers.

Mary Jane, President of the Renaissance Lodge welcomed us to the Convention.

Our Color Guard consisted of some of our member that are veterans. Hugh Ricci from Cristofor Colombo Lodge, Bill Murphy from St Helena Lodge, and Mauro Romagnoli from Joanne Coccia Lodge.

Our Past State President, Maria Fazio Pignati sang the American and Italian National Anthems. Her beautiful voice brought tears to many eyes.

Father Adam Forno, our National Chaplin, did the Invocation.

President Mariann Aita presented First Gent, Ken Wisniewski with a gift card to his favorite store...Best Buy! He thanked her and the Lodges for their generosity.

Past Grand Lodge President Maria Pignati read the Necrologio. Eighty-two of our members have passed during the year 2021. We will miss them.

Reports were given by the first group of Grand Lodge Officers

We broke for the Presidents and Spouses Lunch. It has been two years since we have had an "in-person" Convention, so it was only fitting that we honor both. If not for spouses, our Presidents would not be able to take care of business. It is important to honor our support group. Each received a small token to say, "Thank You".

After lunch we suspended the Grand Lodge Convention to convene the Western Foundation CAO, Mark Rossi took over the meeting and we heard reports from the Foundation Committees.

Our Golf Tournament in the North will be held in Chico at the Canyon Oaks Country Club on September 12th. The Golf Tournament in the South will be held in Palm Springs at the Indian Canyon Golf Resort on November 14th. Please support these activities so our Western Foundation can continue to support the scholarships and charities we have selected through the years.

We then suspended the Western Foundation till the next day.

Our resident rabble rouser, Yvonne Vanoni, gave us a shade from the past with the parade of mutande with Manny Finazzo and Pam Bini. Parading their mutande and Limoncello! She fell from out of the Lemon Tree while trying to pick the lemons for her Limoncello!!

We broke for the evening to get ready for the "Take Me Out To The Ball Game" Theme Night. There were mostly Dodgers and Giants fans but a few Angels, Yankees and even a few Reno Aces AAA fans. The chants were loud and long for the teams. The Cracker Jack and peanuts on the table made for a great experience. Our own entertainers Frankie DiSalvio, Lee Sparkle, and our third Vice President Louie Lodi got up and sang for us. Thank you, Convention Chair, Lynn Lawrence Murphy, and our sponsoring Lodges for a great, fun night.

Day two began with a visit from our Supreme Lodge President, Robert Bianchi Esq. He gave a very moving speech to our delegates. I wish that more of our delegates and members were there to hear him.

The discussion of the sale of the Grand Lodge building and lot at 5051 Mission Street in San Francisco was then had. Cochairs of the Building Investment Committee presented a proposal to gift the building to the Western Foundation and then sell it with special limitations as to what could be done with those funds. It was felt that this would save our Grand Lodge in taxes. After a lengthy discussion it was voted to re-

move the \$5 million dollar minimum that was put in place several years ago, not gift the building to the Western Foundation but to direct the Grand Council to move forward with the selling of the building. The monies will be a part of the Grand Lodge Finances and will be used by the elected body of the Grand Council to purchase a building in a location that they deem best for the Grand Lodge.

The Roma Lodge presented a few by-law changes for consideration. The change to not have the Council fine any Lodges for not attending the Convention was passed. This change must go to the Supreme Convention to have the change effective.

The lunch on Day two was for the Royal Court of the Golden Lion, the Western Foundation's Fund-raising Committee. The Committee gave a check for \$2,500 to the Gary Sinise Foundation. The Gary Sinise Foundation assists our Defenders, Veterans, First Responders, and their families in need.

Back to business in the afternoon, we had a breakout session for all Financial Secretaries. If they were not in attendance the Lodge Presidents were asked to attend. Thank you, Arlene Nunziati and Lynn Lawrence Murphy for putting this together. I hope that the attendees were able to use what they learned when they got home. I know the Lodge Presidents gave the information to their Financial Secretaries.

That afternoon our Il Leone Editor, Andy Pampuro and his lovely wife Louise attended the session. Grand Lodge Third Vice President, Louie Lodi, and Grand Lodge President Barbara Fumosa Wisniewski, called them to the front of the room to present them with the Janet Capello Distinguished Members Award. This is given to those that have distinguished themselves in their contributions to our Order in the Grand Lodge of California. Andy and Louise have given of themselves to our local and Grand Lodge for 52 years.

Entertainment Night was so much fun with the dance band "Full Spectrum" entertaining us. Dinner was excellent. Everyone continued with the camaraderie that began on Thursday with all of us touching base

again with each other and dancing and laughing together.

Saturday was a busy day with some reports but all our very generous donations. Our own special friend Phil Privitera from Massachusetts pledged \$1,000.00 to help subsidize our own Il Leone. In total we received pledges for almost \$5,000.00 for the Il Leone.

The General Scholarship received pledges of almost \$15,000.00. We received pledges for Trade School Scholarship for over \$500.00. Our Perpetual Scholarships received Pledges for over \$11,000.00

The Medical Charities and Birth Defects Libraries received some wonderful pledges:

- Cooley's Anemia \$6,800.00
- TSF \$750.00
- Alzheimer \$3,775.00
- Autism Research \$250.00
- NAMI \$300.00

- American Cancer Research \$1,900.00
- American Heart Research \$425.00
- UC Davis BD Library \$2,000.00

The Grand Lodge thanks all for your generosity!

Our youth group, headed by Brian Watson then came to the podium and introduced themselves. They were off to Disneyland again so in a rush to be gone! They left gifts for all those that donated to the Little Lion Program so we can continue the program for future conventions free of charge to the children's families.

With all our business conducted, The Convention was

closed. Many of our Delegates attended mass served by Fr. Adam Forno, our National Chaplin.

That evening we all attended the Black and White Ball in honor of our scholarship winners.

The four students in attendance were:

Josephine Aspromonte who was awarded the \$3,000 Ena Moresco Scholarship donated by Charles and Anna M Pedrazzini Foundation and presented by Janey Leonardich, President of the Watsonville Lodge.

Elyse Reilly was awarded the \$3,000 In honor of Lodge Members donated by the Cristoforo Colombo Lodge and presented by Pamela Ricci, President of the Cristofor Colombo Lodge.

Preston Boswell was awarded the \$2,500 in memory of Jean Privitera Scholarship donated by the Privitera Family Charitable Foundation and presented by Philip Joseph Privitera SIF Trustee National OSDIA

Antonio M Paganelli was awarded the In memory of bob Vaona Scholarship donated by the Vaona Family and the Centinela Valley Lodge presented by Mark Vaona, Grand Lodge Second Vice President.

Our National President, Robert Bianchi Esq gave an amazing speech about our youth and how they are the future of our Order. He struck a chord with everyone in attendance, as he spoke about what we have accomplished, what we are accomplishing and what we can accomplish in the future. We were fired up and ready to have all hands-on deck to help him and our National Lodge continue to grow our Order.





Have  
a wonderful  
Summer!

Pauline Richmond  
State First VicePresident



# Scholarship Committee News

by Rosemarie Biagetti Vanderhaar  
Chairperson

I hope everyone is having an enjoyable summer. I would like to share a few "Thank You" notes that were personally sent to me and my committee. In addition to the notes featured here, I received emailed Thank You messages from almost all of the recipients.

I want the lodges and their members to know that their fundraising efforts and support of the scholarship program is not in vain. Our program would not be possible without the generosity and support of our members and donors.

I know I have commented before, but it bears repeating. Without the wonderful committee I have, my job would be harder. I personally review each application sent to me when I log it in. The real work is done by the committee members who give up a day to spend reviewing and evaluating each and every application.

To them, a big "SHOUT OUT" for a great job. Millie grazie to them.

Millie grazie to our members and donors.

P.S. Incidentally the Pignole cookies made by Paolo were delicious.

Dear Ms. Vanderhaar

My name is Paolo Canigula and I'm a recent graduate from Lowell High school. A few months ago, you awarded me a scholarship through the Sons of Italy Western Foundation. I wanted to formally thank you for selecting me for the Mario Moro Memorial Scholarship. As a thank you, I made you some Pignoli which are my favorite Italian cookie. The recipe said they would be good for a week after baking (made on 6/17).

I also wanted to update you that I got off the waitlist at Amherst College and I'm excited to head to Massachusetts next fall. I hope to walk on to their cross country/track team and double major in Computer Science and Italian.

I'll be able to improve myself in an unique and intriguing community of learning. I cannot thank you enough for helping me receive the opportunity to pursue a higher education.

Sincerely,  
Paolo Canigula

Dear Mrs. Vanderhaar,

Thank you for awarding me the Sons of Italy scholarship.

I am honored and thrilled to receive it. I look forward to college and all the opportunities that are ahead for me.

Have a nice summer.

Grazie,  
Spencer MacLeuz

Ms. Vanderhaar,

I wanted to thank you for selecting me for the Larry Peluso and Al Scali Scholarship. I promise to always strive for success. This will help me as I head to UCSD. Thank you again.

♥ Ciera Sesock

MEMBERS OF THE SONS OF ITALY Western Foundation,

Thank you for the honor of receiving a top scholarship. I am grateful to have been acknowledged by the Grand Lodge of California. Please excuse my absence, for I will not be able to attend the Grand Banquet and Ball. It sounds like an unbelievable opportunity & I am genuinely disappointed.

Thank you again for the scholarship. I am super excited to be using it for my education at Baldwin Wallace, in Ohio.

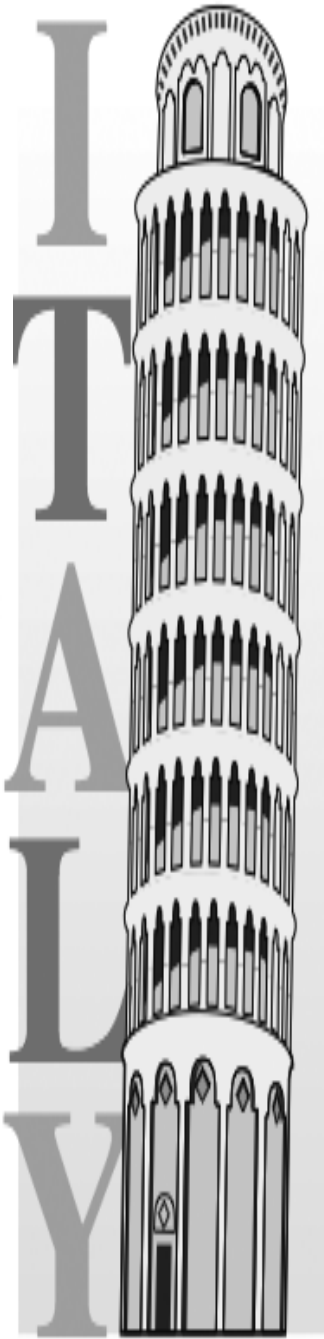
Sincerely,  
Raquella NB

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Vallejo, CA 94591  
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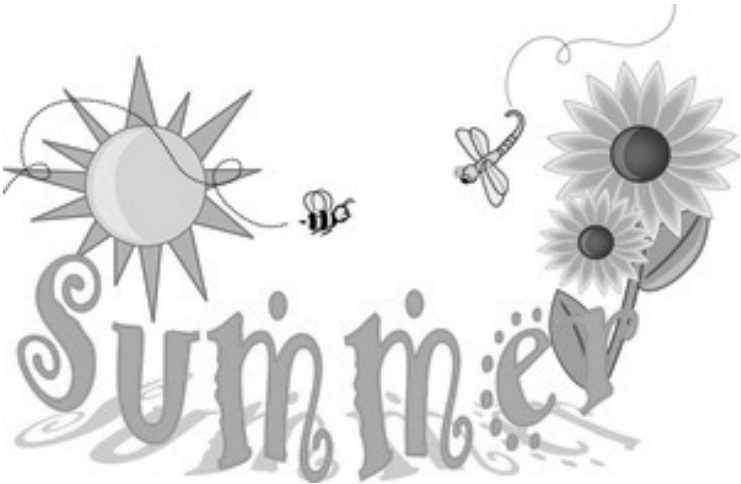
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Louise Pampuro

Maria Pignati

Ugo Pignati

Annette Porter

Phil Privitera

Hugh Ricci

Pamela Ricci

Pauline Richmond

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Sadie Tamburine

Jan Trigleth

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Ukiah Lodge #2104

Debbie Ure

Roy T. Vanoni

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Watsonville Lodge #2016

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Barbara Wisniewski

Ken Wisniewski

In Memory of Brother Fred Buerman, OBOSB Hand of Help, From Ron & Ashley Latteri

In Memory of Mirella Brattesani, Ceasars Restaurant, From Ron & Ashley Latteri

In Memory of Father John Malloy, From Ron & Ashley Latteri

In Memory of Father Larry N. Lorenzoni, From Ron & Ashley Latteri



Edna Gibbello 1924 - 2022

OSDIA Napa 2043 Historian Emeritus

It is with heavy hearts we share the news of our Sister Edna’s passing. Sister Edna was a member of our lodge for 52 years. The first 47 years she alone preserved and cataloged our lodge history with photos, newspaper articles & mementos. Always quick witted you never had to wonder what Edna was thinking, we will miss you Sister Edna , until we meet again.



Dorothy Parodi Hoffman

1923 - 2022

Sadly we must share the news of losing our sister Dorothy, she was a member of our lodge for 47 years. Dorothy was a native of Napa and spent her life dedicated to serving our community. While in her 80’s Dorothy spearheaded the efforts to restore the 1860 Nichelini Homestead cabin, preserving it for generations to come by making it a certified National historical landmark. Dorothy and her ‘mega-watt’ smile will be missed by so many. Until we meet again Sister Dorothy.

Gold Country # 2706

El Dorado Hills, CA  
by Tami Welch

Scholarship Award  
Winners 2022

The Gold Country Sons and Daughters of Italy located in El Dorado Hills, CA, is proud to announce the winners of our 2022 Scholarships. They and their families were guests at our lodge’s annual May ravioli dinner meeting. Each student, who was awarded the Italian Heritage Scholarship, shared the stories of their heritage, immigration, and success in the United States of America. They also shared their career plans. Thanks to successful fundraisers (Bocce tournaments and local restaurants support), each student was awarded \$500. Abriana Stewart completed the four-year Italian language classes at Oakridge High School with exemplary performance to earn the Italian Language Scholarship. She will be attending the University

of Southern California majoring in design and hopes to spend a semester of foreign exchange in Florence for fashion design leading to a career in the garment industry. Steven Nardinelli, Anna Cerdan and Camry Schoenahl received the Italian Heritage Scholarships. Steven attended Folsom High School and will major in Hospitality and Business at the University of Nevada Las Vegas. He plans to pursue a career with the airlines. Anna attended Folsom High School and will attend Boise State with a major in Kinesiology and plans to be a physical therapist. Camry attended El Dorado High School and will be heading north to the University of Alaska Fairbanks. She plans to study emergency management with a focus in public health and safety. Congrat-



Diana's Poetry Corner  
EGYPT AND HER NILE  
by Diana S. Minsky

The pyramids of Egypt are  
mysterious and begiling  
Like a sister, the Nile is loving  
and and prying, can't help but love  
her without crying  
Pharaohs and Queens with their  
sacred mummies of death, seeking  
an afterlife for the soul  
to be put at rest  
Cast an eye on her riches in  
gold, marble, ad treasures,  
her feats of splenor were  
the Pharaoh's pleasures  
The mystery of building  
is still usolved the search  
for clues will someday be  
resolved



# 2022 Convention





# 2022 Convention



*Thank you from us.*

*Thank you Barbara, Louie and Frank for the wonderful you paid to Louise and me at the recent convention. What a wonderful tribute you paid us with the Janet Cappello Award. It was a wonderful tribute, one we will never forget. We still get choked up thinking about it.*





# Centinela Valley Lodge

Centinela, CA  
by Annette Porter

Our May 73rd Anniversary dinner was a terrific evening! We had a wonderful prime rib or chicken wellington dinner. The food was fantastic, as usual. Our caterer did another outstanding job. The members that helped put this event together created a beautifully decorated hall. Without each and every one of them, our events would not be as successful. We would like to thank each of the lodges and state officers that attended our anniversary: Anaheim Lodge, Dolly Sinatra Lodge, Joanne Coccia Lodge, La Costa Dei Fiori Lodge and Pugliese Lodge. The state officers that attended were: Western Foundation Trustee Joseph LaPorta, Royal court of The Golden Lion Sadie Tamburine, State 2nd Vice President Mark Vaona and

representing our State President Manny Finazzo (State Orator). Our honorees Betty Sandroni and Susana Grebe had their family in attendance. Betty and Susana have been a member of Sons of Italy for the past 21 years. Betty and Susana have been a big part of the lodge by helping out at dinner dances and where ever needed. Susana also supported the lodge as sentinel. They are always there when something needs to be taken care of. At our July meeting we had the pleasure of presenting our scholarship to one young student from our local high school. We also had the pleasure of presenting another scholarship to one young student at the June convention.



Manny Finazzo representing our State President presenting Susana with her certificate from the Grand Lodge



Manny Finazzo representing our State President presenting Betty with her certificate from the Grand Lodge



President Steve Guthrie with our honorees Betty and Susana



Our wonderful honorees Betty and Susana enjoying the evening and with their certificates



Betty Sandroni with her family



Susana Grebe with part of her family



Carol Damico saying a prayer before dinner

## 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-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  
visaliasonsofitaly.club.officelive.om
- Eureka Lodge  
sonsofitalyeureka@gmail.com  
Facebook.com/Order.Sons.of.Italy.Eureka
- Fratellanza Garibaldina  
www.osia1627.org
- Giuseppe Verdi Lodge #1441  
www.sonsofitaly1441.weebly.com
- Grand Lodge of California  
www.sonsofitalyca.org
- Hacienda Lodge #2168  
www.osiahaciendalodge.com
- Hanford Lodge  
csantagata916@gmail.com
- Joanne Coccia Lodge  
ociafontana.org
- La Costa dei Fiori Lodge  
www.sonsofitalysandiego.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 Bellini Lodge #2519  
www.sonsofitalychico.com
- Watsonville Lodge #2016  
www.sonsofitalywatsonville.org  
sonsofitalywatsonville@yahoo.com
- 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.







Members of the lodge enjoying themselves with the Anaheim Lodge



Joanne Coccia Lodge members enjoying their dinner with the La Costa Dei Fiori Lodge members



Centinela Valley Lodge members enjoying their evening



Serafina Accetta enjoying herself visiting with Michael and Editha



Yolanda Campanelli enjoying herself with lodge members



Bernard Torres enjoying himself with lodge members



Antonio is one of our scholarship recipients, he received it at the June convention



President Steve presented our other scholarship to Spencer at our July business meeting

# Cesare Battisti Lodge # 1518 Petaluma, CA by Ernie Giono

On June 12th Sunday afternoon, Jimmy Maestretti did the most mouth watering Salmon dinner for us. He even went so far as to have tortellini with a light creamy pesto sauce, Caesar Salad and oven roasted veggies. We had 70 people that were overwhelmed with the quality of the dinner, me included.

It was great to see Fred Schram in attendance. He just got over a bout with Covid and pneumonia and a stay in the hospital. Welcome back Fred... He looked great by the way.!

Hope everyone is well and thriving. This pandemic is a problem but it seems like we are getting the upper hand now. Get your vaccines and boosters so you can join us.

Our July Burger dinner meeting was small but so much fun. Everyone had a good time and yes, we were loud!

We have no meeting in August.

Our September meeting will be a Pizza Party from Mountain Mike's, a local premium pizza parlor. Three or four varieties will be available along with a salad. Reservations start August 1st by calling 707-559-3119.

We have a surprise as far as meals are concerned for the rest of the year so stay alert and above all, stay healthy. We have been asked to invite fully vaccinated members only (2 and 2 boosters) and you must show a fully filled out vaccine card to enter or you will be sent home. Also have your mask on or ready in your pocket. Ernie Giono





# Cristoforo Colombo Lodge #1534

Reno, NV  
by Historian, Maria Nelson.

Happy Summer! Our Lodge hopes you are getting together with your Lodges, fundraising, initiating new members, and socializing again. It's been really wonderful seeing our members again and welcoming new ones. Our dinner meetings at the Elks Club in Reno have been a big success. So much more parking, room, and an incredible kitchen for our cooks.

Our "Non Festa Fundraiser" or also called "Fill the Boot" ended in January of 2021, but we continued it through May of this year. As we were not able to have our big Festa in 2020 or 2021, which is our big fundraiser, we started the Non Festa Fundraiser. As of the end of May, we collected \$7,674. Our goal was \$8000, so we are so pleased how everyone came forward and gave with their hearts so we could continue our lodge goals of community giving.

In January we initiated new members: Nick Simone, Mary Barton, Ron Bausone, and John Nuessle. Happy to welcome them to our Lodge.

In February our member, Salene Pecetti, shared an excellent presentation about her family business, Reno Vulcanizing and how it was started by her Italian family. They are celebrating 100 years in business.

In March we heard from another Italian member, Patty Cafferatta. She has written several books about her family and Old Reno. Her presentation was amazing and many people purchased her books.

At our April meeting, Michael Lella, the son of Pina Lella, spoke and presented about his book, Beneath a Scarlet Sky. It is a #1 seller on Amazon and is about World War II in Italy. We learned so much and heard the amazing and heroic story about his Father.

April 30 was our big awaited Festa Primavera. It was held at the Elks again and was quickly sold out. Antonio Ricci and his crew, prepared the food and it was delicious. We had incredible silent auction items and many raffle prizes. We made a record amount of money from this Festa and can now pass it on to our scholarship winners and others to whom we donate. Those involved worked so very hard to make the Festa a success and we are so thankful to them all.

For our May meeting

we had a "Show and Tell" presentation. Many of our members brought items and pictures and shared information about their Italian families. It was a really wonderful evening.

In June we had our scholarship winners attend our dinner and talk a little about themselves. We presented a \$3000 scholarship to Elyse Reilly. She graduated from Galena High School and will attend Utah State University. Raquella Capri Menesini-Baden received a \$2500 scholarship. She graduated from Reno High School and will attend Baldwin Wallace College in Ohio. They came to dinner with their families and we enjoyed hearing from them. We also gave a vocational scholarship in the amount of \$500 to Justin Gronek who is finishing his mechanical degree at Truckee Meadows Community College.

We are very privileged to have State President Barba-

ra Wisniewski as our Immediate Past President of our Lodge. Barbara attends almost all our meetings and supports our events with style. Ken is also at her side and pitches in to help. Thank you for being a loyal member.

We are planning our annual picnic on August 21st which is always a fun event outside. Last year we had to cancel due to extreme smoke in our skies so we are looking forward to some fun this year. If you are ever in the area, please feel free to visit. We have great meals!!

Thank you for reading about our Lodge. Pronti? Via! (ready? Let's go!) Until next time.....

Please visit our Face book page at Reno Sons of Italy and our website for more information: [www.reno-sonsofitaly.org](http://www.reno-sonsofitaly.org). Learn more about our Lodge, your Italian heritage and upcoming events.



Antonio Ricci, Maria Knight, and Frank Picone cooking at Festa.



Silent auction paintings for Festa.



Raffle prizes for Festa.



Father Chuck enjoying dinner with family and friends.



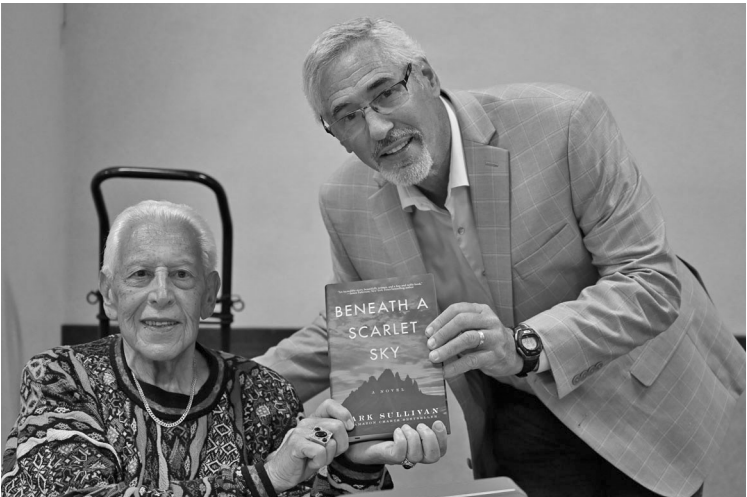
Scholarship winners, Raquella Capri Menesini-Baden and Elyse Reilly with Lodge President, Pamela Ricci and State President, Barbara Wisniewski.



Salene Pecetti with a family picture of their Reno Vulcanizing business.



Patty Cafferatta with her books on her family and old Reno.



Michael Lella with his book about his grandfather from WW II, Beneath the Scarlet Sky.

Cont. on page 3



C Colombo Lodge # 1315

Pittsburg, CA

by Zelda LeFrak-Belleci



The Festa Itala was held in the main square of Pittsburg, California. The event reflected Italian culture through music, food and dance. Seen above are some of the volunteers from C. Colombo Lodge who worked at the Festa. Zelda LeFrak-Belleci, Christine Galindo, Sal Lucca, Janet Castillo and Ernie Dineli.



C. Colombo participated in the Festa Itala held on a recent June weekend in Pittsburg, Californian. Heading the committee hosting the Welcome to the Sons & Daughters of Italy was Paulette Lagana. Seen above Paulette awarding the Saturday afternoon prize to Joe Cardinale who had driven in from Reno for the festival.



Roseanne DiMaggio Ortland, right, is seen working the gaily decorated C. Colombo Lodge booth at the Festa Italia. Lodge members took turns manning the booth, greeting festival goers with a “buongiorno” and an invitation to join the Sons and Daughters of Italy.



Thank you President Barbara, Louie Lodi and Frank Locicero for your wonderful presentation of the Janet Cappello Award.

We still get emotional and proud to have been given this honor our love is with the order and with you our extended family and friends.

Andy and Louise Pampuro

Saddleback Valley

Lodge # 2566

Mission Viejo, CA

by Pete Ditto

Survival...

Like many Sons and Daughters of Italy lodges, Saddleback is struggling to retain and even gain members. To that end, we have been successful, and I thought I would give my opinions on why we are doing well.

First of all, it is leadership. Our president and his council have been very effective in maintaining morale and loyalty through the pre-pandemic and pandemic period. Hank, especially, has encouraged ideas and has kept virtually all members of the lodge active by delegating the responsibility for activities, meeting programs and meals, and responding positively to member’s ideas.

Secondly, we strive for monthly activities. There is so much to see and do around Orange County and beyond that our activities abound. We have done wine tasting, museum trips, outdoor picnics, outdoor movies, and train trips for example at affordable prices. As a result, we have a very cohesive group.

It is our plan to give the Grand Lodge more exposure to Saddleback and thus show the prospective new members the benefits of having the state and national presence. To this end we have invited The Grand Lodge president to do some marketing at our meetings in an effort get new members interested in our Lodge.

We are proud of our group and strive to keep it healthy and grow with no internal strife.

At our July meeting, we had a bocce ball tournament, organized by Tess Arieta and Erta Matson. This was followed by a Scholarship presentation to Jessica Morris, granddaughter of Joe Rossi (RIP) and great niece of members Al and Lillian Rossi. Below, our President is presenting the scholarship to Jessica who will be attending San Diego State in the fall. There is also a picture showing Jessica with our first Lady Michelle. They both went to the same high school, just a few years apart! We then initiated four new Saddleback Lodge SDOIA members, Maureen Di Domenico, Fran and John Adranga, and Donald Pasaglia who are also shown in the picture below.

After the ceremonies, we had sandwich night along with supplemental goodies brought by members. Our leftovers were donated to the US marines by both Kerry and Tim Herington.



Our June meeting was a barbecue at Hank and Michelle’s house. We had Hotties Hambies as well as a myriad of nummys brought by members. The 36 attendees all had a great time! Thanks to our Pres and Mrs. Pres.

Activities: we are all looking forward to our Angels game outing, wine tasting at San Antonio winery and perhaps a train ride for an afternoon at Del Mar.

It’s great to be back to some sort of normality with regular meetings and good participation.

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Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I am excited and proud to announce that we have a new lodge based in Palermo, Italy (pending Supreme Council approval) that will be joining our Order. This new Italian lodge, is in addition to our Rome Lodge. My deepest thanks to Carmelo Cutuli who has been a champion of our Order in Italy!

In October, I am traveling to Rome to visit the Rome Lodge, install the Palermo lodge, and meet with our Italian sisters and brothers. This is a great moment for OSDIA as we expand our reach back to our Homeland, the birthplace of our past.

Last year we held a slogan contest, which was a lot of fun. "Italian Roots, American Branches" was the winning slogan- how meaningful and appropriate! I see no reason why our branches cannot go back to our roots and celebrate who we are, where we came from, and commune with our Italian sisters and brothers of OSDIA.

As I was planning this historic trip (never before done in OSDIA history), I quickly thought "Why not plan a trip where the members of the Supreme Lodge can join me for this epic journey?"

Two staff members at the National Office (Justin and Joana) speak Italian, lived in Rome, know the cool, non-

touristy treasures, and are proud of our culture. They recommended amazing things to do in Rome that most tourists don't know about and will guarantee a more genuine experience.

During these past two weeks, I have asked others if they were interested in joining me in Rome, because I would like to share these great moments with our OSDIA family. The positive response was incredible.

Accordingly, I invite all members of the Supreme Lodge (including the Supreme Council) to join us in this first- ever, historic, and what will be an amazing journey to our homeland.

While I realize the notice is short, we may never be given an opportunity to have all the stars line up like this again. So, LET'S DO THIS!

Be advised that the hotel accommodations are LIMITED, so I need a count ASAP. More information regarding this trip will be forthcoming.

Here are the are basic points to remember:

- This will be a relaxed trip. People will make their plane and hotel reservations (we are holding 2 hotels to choose from).
- We will not have driving/exhausting daily schedules, like most tours. Justin and Joana arranged amazing places to visit. You can go, not go, it's up to you.
- We will make travel arrangements when we are in Rome to get us around the Eternal City.
- We will start a Facebook Private Page, so you can ask questions, share thoughts, keep informed.
- Justin will provide a basic itinerary with some awesome things we can do that are unique.
- Dates for trip are 10/1/22-10/7/22. You can come early, late, leave early, stay longer. This again is meant to be flexible to accommodate your desires.

It is my hope that we not only increase our worldwide footprint for OSDIA, but have a LOT of fun, fellowship, and build new memories and relationships. More information to follow. But please, if you are interested, it is imperative to fill out the Google Document in the attached email and that you let Joana at the National Office know ASAP at (202) 547-2900 or email at [jbala@osia.org](mailto:jbala@osia.org). Fraternally, and very excited!

*Robert A. Bianchi*

**Bob Bianchi, Esq.**  
*National President*



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Hello all,

**#OctoberSurprise is HERE! Our American Branches are going back to our Italian Roots!**

National President, Bob Bianchi, is organizing a historic delegation trip to Rome, Italy this October! Please read his attached letter!

**\*\*Let us know your interest in joining, as space is limited! If interested, please add your name by CLICKING HERE! If you have any questions about filling out the form, please reach out to Joana Bala at [jbala@osia.org](mailto:jbala@osia.org).**



## Interesting Facts About Italy

Italy is the fifth most visited country in the world, welcoming some 46 million foreign visitors annually. It's also the fifth most populous country in Europe.

Many musical terms are written in Italian because early composers from the Renaissance era were Italian.

Europe's three active volcanoes, Etna, Stromboli, and Vesuvius are all located in Italy.

In the city of Turin, dog owners must walk their pooch at least three times a day or risk being fined. Woof.

La famiglia is very much a part of the Italian culture. In fact, it's common for single children to live at home until their 30s.

Italy is home to the world's oldest university, the University of Bologna founded in 1088.

Don't be surprised if your hotel in Italy doesn't have a 17th floor. Italians believe that this number is unlucky because when the Roman numeral for 17 (XVII) is rearranged it looks like VIXI, which means "I have lived," a symbol that's associated with death.





# LODGE DIRECTORY

**ANAHEIM  
LODGE No. 2076**  
*Anniv. May 3, 1958*  
ANAHEIM  
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Email: mareprincipessa@gmail.com  
Rec. Secty. Frances D'Errico  
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Anaheim Hills, CA 92808  
Phone: (714) 469-1020  
Email: derricofa@sbcglobal.net  
Meeting 1st. Wed. 7:30 p.m.  
NOT EVERY MONTH  
Contact  
President Mariann Aita or  
Rec. Sec. Fran D'Errico  
for more details of date  
and place.

**BEATRICE PORTINARI  
LODGE No. 1626**  
*Anniv. Jan. 2, 1932*  
VALLEJO  
PRES. PAM BINI  
128 Nalisty Drive,  
Vallejo CA 94590  
Cell: (707) 567-2938  
Email: porterbini@gmail.com  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues. 7:30 p.m.  
Sons of Italy Hall  
621 Carolina St.,  
Vallejo, CA 94590

**CAMELIA-COLOMBO  
LODGE No. 1294**  
*Anniv. June, 1924*  
KLAMATH FALLS, OR  
PRES. OLIVER SPIRES  
224 Mountain View Blvd.  
Klamath Falls, OR 97601  
Phone: (541) 891-8617  
Email: ospires@charter.net  
Rec. Secty. Louise Holst  
780 Del Fatti Lane  
Klamath Falls, OR 97603  
Phone: (541) 883-8490  
Email:laholst120@aol.com  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon. 6:30 p.m.  
815 High Street  
Klamath Falls, OR 97603

**C. COLOMBO  
LODGE No. 1315**  
*Anniv. Aug. 31, 1924*  
ANTIOCH  
PRES. CAROL ESPOSITO  
223 West 5th St.  
Antioch, CA 94509  
Phone: (925) 779-1969  
Email: c\_espo@att.net  
Rec. Edna Esposito  
223 West 5th St.  
Antioch, CA 94509  
Phone:(925) 978-3961  
Email: Esposnca@sbcglobal.net  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs. 7:00 p.m.  
Antioch Senior Center  
415 W. 2nd Street  
Antioch, CA 94509

**CENTINELA VALLEY  
LODGE No. 1991**  
*Anniv. Mar. 20, 1949*  
TORRANCE  
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337 GladysAve #6  
Long Beach, CA 908144  
Phone: (310) 483-4383  
Email: stvegut@yahoo.com  
Rec. Secty. Lisa Hayes  
1731 235th St.  
Torrance, CA 90501  
Phone: (310) 381-9071  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. 7 p.m.  
Order Sons of Italy Hall  
1744 W. Carson St.  
Torrance, CA 90501

**CESARE BATTISTI  
LODGE No. 1518**  
*Anniv. Jan. 28, 1929*  
PETALUMA  
PRES: Ernie Giono  
50 Circulo Puerto  
Rohnert Park, CA 94928  
Phone: (707) 585-2928  
Email: erng1624@aol.com  
Rec.Secty. Anna Biggio  
125 Rogue Moraes  
Mill Valley, CA 94941  
Phone: (415) 388-1998  
Email: sonoioann@gmail.com  
2nd Sunday 2:00 p.m.  
Rancho Grande  
5900 Snyder Lane  
Rohnert Park, CA94928

**COLUMBIA  
LODGE No. 1940**  
*Anniv. July 30, 1944*  
SAN MATEO  
PRES. ANGELO FANUCCHI  
3721 Wilshire Ave.  
San Mateo, CA 94403  
Phone: (650) 678-1993  
Email:angsm42@gmail.com  
Rec. Secty. Angie Fanucchi  
3721 Wilshire Ave.  
San Mateo, CA 94403  
Phone: (650) 228-6013  
Email: angsm42@gmail.com  
Meets 4th Tues, 11:00 a.m.  
Peninsula Italian American  
Social Club  
100 North B Street  
San Mateo, CA 94401

**COLOMBO-STELLA  
LODGE No. 1149**  
*Anniv. Sept. 22, 1922*  
FRESNO  
PRES. OLIVIA DELIDDO  
6577 E. Kerckhoff  
Fresno, CA 93727  
Phone: (559) 312-5151  
Rec Secty Steven Barra  
850 W. Jensen  
Fresno, CA 93706  
Phone: (559) 974-2345  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues. 6:30 p.m.  
Contact Olivia Deliddo  
For Details

**CORNELIA-VITA  
NUOVA  
LODGE No. 1198**  
*Anniv. April 21, 1923*  
SAN FRANCISCO  
PRES. ANGELA SILVA  
625 H St. NE #444  
Washington DC 20002  
Phone: (650) 291-3595  
Email:silva.angela110290@gmail.com  
Rec. Secty. Carla Silva  
1301 Williams Ave.  
San Bruno, CA 94066  
Phone: (415) 308-8254  
No information on meeting  
place

**CRISTOFORO COLOMBO  
LODGE No. 1534**  
*Anniv. June 14, 1929*  
RENO, NV  
PRES. PAMELA RICCI  
12540 Creek Crest Dr  
Reno, NV 89511  
Phone: (775) 851-2169  
email: pam@riccihomes.com  
Rec. Secty. Paul Romero  
12410 Westridge Dr.  
Reno, NV 89511  
Phone (775) 772-5476  
Email: paul@redstonenv.com  
Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Wed. 6:00 p.m.  
The Reno Elks Lodge  
597 Kumle Lane  
Reno, NV 89509

**DIABLO VALLEY  
LODGE No. 2167**  
*Anniv. Feb. 13, 1966*  
PLEASANT HILL  
PRES. LINDA PARENT TASCA  
4014 Lynwood Ct.  
Concord, CA 94519  
Phone: (925) 825-2560  
Email: lptcatlady@yahoo.com  
Rec. Secty. Francine Loyd  
225 Rainbow Dr.  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523  
Phone: (925) 933-1578  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. 6:00 p.m.  
VARIOUS LOCATIONS

**DOLLY SINATRA  
LODGE No. 2400**  
*Anniv. May 29, 1977*  
PALM SPRINGS  
PRES. JOSEPH LAPORTA  
1536 Enclave way  
Palm Springs CA 92262  
Phone: (760) 219-9171  
Email: joeydoor@dc.rr.com  
Rec. Sec. Julia D'Elia  
2060 Rochelle Road  
Palm Springs, CA 92262  
Phone: 760 333-5794  
Email:  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues. 6:00 p.m.  
Dolly Sinatra Lodge Hall  
1700 Sahara  
Palm Springs, CA 92262

**ENRICO CARUSO  
LODGE No. 1463**  
*Anniv. June 27, 1927*  
VISALIA  
PRES. LARRY ROMANAZZI  
1150 N.Rossmoor Ct.  
Visalia, CA 93291  
Phone: (559) 733-1461  
Email: larry@msrcpa.com  
Rec. Secty.Pam Buldo  
Phone: (559) 799-8697  
Email: pjbuldo@aol.com  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs. 7:00 p.m.  
Visalia Sons of Italy Hall  
4211 W. Goshen Ave.  
Visalia, CA 93291

**EUREKA  
LODGE No. 1274**  
*Anniv. Mar. 16, 1924*  
EUREKA  
PRES. JOHN SALIZZONI  
P.O. Box 3131  
Eureka, CA 95502-3131  
Phone: (707) 498-0774  
EMAIL: eddie.alexander.  
Rec. Secty. Laura Lazzarotto  
2911 C Street  
Eureka, CA 95501  
Phone: (707) 499-6674  
Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Tues. 7:00 p.m.  
St. Bernard's Parish Hall  
7<sup>th</sup> & "I" Streets  
Eureka, CA 95501  
Email: sonsofitalyeureka@gmail.com

**FRATELLANZA  
GARIBALDINA  
LODGE No. 1627**  
*Anniv. Apr. 17, 1932*  
SAN DIEGO  
PRES. SADIE TAMBURINE  
1925 Circle Park Lane  
Encinitas, CA 92024  
Phone: (760) 274-6270  
{760} 613-6178  
Email: sadieagos@gmail.com  
Rec. Secty. Sarah Van  
Leuvan  
341 Shady Glen Drive  
Fallbrook, CA 92028  
Phone: (619) 922 5839  
  
Meets 3rd Mon. 6:00 P.M.  
Portuguese Hall  
2818 Avenida De Portugal  
San Diego, CA 92106

**GIUSEPPE VERDI  
LODGE No. 1441**  
*Anniv. Sept. 6, 1927*  
SPARKS, NV  
PRES. MARIANNE CAMP-  
BELL  
Address: 1660 Medolla Dr.  
Sparks, NV 89434  
Phone: (775) 560-8199  
Email: mnc0107@sbcglobal.net  
Rec. Secty. Monica Domini  
4790 Caughlin Parkway #502  
Reno, NV 89519  
Phone: (775) 843-3733  
Email: monica.domini@gmail.com  
Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Tues. 7:00 p.m.  
Immaculate Conception  
Church - Social Hall  
2900 N. McCarran Blvd.  
Sparks, NV 89431

**GOLD COUNTRY  
LODGE No. 2705**  
*Anniv. July 20, 1996*  
EL DORADO HILLS  
PRES. JIM SILVEIRA  
1150 St. Andrews  
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762  
Phone: (916) 939-6445  
Email:inspectorjim@yahoo.com  
Rec. Secty. Bev Scotch  
3225 Stonehurst Dr.  
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762  
Email: bevscotch@gmail.com  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues. 6:30 p.m.  
5011 Golden Foothill #7  
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

**HACIENDA  
LODGE No. 2168**  
*Anniv. Apr. 17, 1966*  
WHITTIER  
PRES. BILL VIVERTO  
1021 Clintwood Ave  
La Puente, CA 91744  
Phone:(626) 261-2879  
Email: bverdo@aol.com  
Rec. Secty. Carrie Harrison  
2520 Summershade Dr.  
La Habra 90631  
Phone: (562) 400-9663  
Email: OPCarrie@cs.com  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon. 8 p.m.  
Masonic Hall  
7604 Greenleaf Avenue  
Whittier, CA 90602

**HANFORD  
LODGE No. 1543**  
*Anniv. July 27, 1929*  
HANFORD  
PRES. MICHAEL LEONI  
315 W. Earl Way  
Hanford, CA 93230  
Phone: 559-212-8773  
Email: mleoni1080@gmail.com  
Rec.Secty. Brittney Little  
1203 Mary St.  
Hanford,CA 93230  
Phone # 559-380-6411  
Email: little08@mail.fres-nostate.edu  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. 6:00 p.m.  
Hanford Fraternal Hall  
1015 N. 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Hanford, CA 93230

**JOANNE COCCIA  
LODGE No. 2553**  
*Anniv. Feb. 19, 1984*  
FONTANA  
PRES. PAUL FINAZZO  
8888 Tamarind Ave  
Fontana, CA 92335  
Phone: (909) 822-8740  
Email: pffin@aol.com  
Rec. Secty. Michaelynn Minicucci  
140 W Pioneer Ave, 101  
Redlands CA 92374  
Phone: (909) 855-5437  
Email: michaelynn66@live.com  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun. 1:00 p.m.  
Knights of Columbus Hall  
16432 Merrill Ave.  
Fontana, CA 92335

**LA COSTA DEI FIORI  
LODGE No. 2424**  
*Anniv. Oct. 22, 1978*  
ENCINITAS  
PRES. SAL PROVENZA  
7900 Calle Oliva  
Carlsbad, CA 92009  
Phone: 760-634-2029  
Email:sprovenza@aol.com  
Rec Secty. Dan Gizzo  
P.O. Box 9718  
Rancho Santa Fe, CA  
92067  
Phone: (858) 461-4069  
dangizzo@hotmail.com  
Meets 1st Wed. 6:00 p.m.  
The Valley Club  
2280 Calle Barcelona  
Carlsbad, CA 92009

**MODESTO  
LODGE No. 2021**  
*Anniv. Apr. 20, 1952*  
MODESTO  
PRES. PRESIDENT:  
LOUISE NISHIKAWA  
1233 Sycamore Ave.  
Modesto CA 95350  
Phone: (209) 484-0443  
Email: louisenishikawa@gmail.com  
Rec. Secty.. Sara S Shuppi  
1136 El Vecino Ave  
Modesto CA 95350  
Phone: (209} 51-5987  
Email: ssshupp7@gmail.com  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Fri. 5:30 p.m.  
Grace Lutheran Church  
617 W. Orangeburg Ave.  
Modesto, CA

# Become a Sponsor of Il Leone!



# LODGE DIRECTORY

**NAPA**  
**LODGE No. 2043**  
*Anniv. Mar. 28, 1955*  
NAPA  
PRES. ANNA GRAEBER  
4206 Chardonnay Ct.  
Napa, CA 94558  
Phone: (707) 287-5225  
Email: napasonsofitaly@gmail.com  
or info@napasonsofitaly.org  
Web: www.napasonsofitaly.org  
Rec. Secty. Tracy Warr  
1523 Palmer St.  
Napa, CA 94559  
Meets 4th Monday  
Exec Chef Daryl Muromoto  
Dinner 6:00pm. RSVP  
Julie: (707) 252-9196  
Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
Native Sons Hall  
937 Coombs St. Napa CA

**NORTHERN SOLANO**  
**LODGE No. 2534**  
*Anniv. Jan. 16, 1983*  
FAIRFIELD  
PRES. DON CRADDUCK  
2659 Laurel Dr.  
Fairfield, CA 94533  
Phone(707) 372-5151  
Email: atoothmkr@com-cast.net  
Rec. Secty. Shirley Firpo  
8057 N. Meridian Rd.  
Dixon, CA 95620  
Phone (707) 678-2455  
Email: slfirpo@jps.net  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. 6:00 p.m.  
Fairfield Senior Center  
1200 Civic Center Drive  
Fairfield, CA 94533

**PUGLIESE**  
**LODGE No. 1375**  
*Anniv. Sept. 5, 1925*  
LOS ANGELES  
PRES.MICHAEL DIGIURO  
1957 Mt. Shasta Drive  
San Pedro, CA 90732  
Phone: (310) 522-9224  
Email: mgdigiuro@yahoo.com  
Rec. Secty. Rosemarie Vanderhaar  
801 West Duarte Road #1  
Monrovia, CA 91016  
Phone: (626) 222-7768  
Email: rgeorev@aol.com  
Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Thurs. 6:00 p.m.  
1744 West Carson Street,  
Torrance, CA

**RENAISSANCE**  
**LODGE No. 2259**  
*Anniv. Mar. 4, 1972*  
ORANGE  
PRES: MARY JANE CAMBRIA  
2539 Back Bay Loop  
Costa Mesa, CA 92627  
Phone: (714) 749-7777  
Email: maryjane@mjcambria.com  
Rec. Secty. Denise Meinhardt  
1324 Rickey Ave  
Anaheim, CA 92802  
Email: dmeiny@gmail.com  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. 7pm  
Renaissance Lodge  
1526 Brookhollow Dr #76  
Santa Ana, CA 92705

**RODOLFO VALENTINO**  
**LODGE No. 1449**  
*Anniv. Apr. 4, 1927*  
CLOVIS  
PRES.CAROL WATSON  
4308 N. Dewitt Ave  
Fresno, CA 93727  
Phone: (559) 906-3721  
Email: watson1565@aol.com  
Rec. Secty. Meri Sorrells  
3341 N. Emperor  
Fresno, CA 93737  
Phone: (559) 292-3469  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon. 6:30 p.m.  
Notre Dame Hall  
333 8<sup>th</sup> St.,  
Clovis, CA 93612

**ROMA**  
**LODGE No. 1573**  
*Anniv. May 25, 1930*  
TULARE  
PRES. LARRY DUTTO  
1804 South Tamarack  
Visalia,CA 93277  
Phone: (559) 901-4683  
Email: larrydutto@yahoo.com  
Rec.Secty. Renee Marinelli  
6528 West Mary Street  
Visalia, California 93277  
Phone: 559-732-8258  
Email r.marine@sbcglobal.net  
Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Mon. 6:30 p.m.  
International Agri-Centre-Social Hall  
4450 S. Laspina  
Tulare, CA 93274

**ROSEVILLE**  
**LODGE No. 1413**  
*Anniv. Apr. 4, 1926*  
ROSEVILLE  
PRES. MARLENE CRISTANELLI  
2924 Carradale Dr.  
Roseville, CA 95661  
Phone: (916) 791-3753  
Email: 20aces17@gmail.com  
Rec. Secty. Bart Aiello  
3855 Fenway Circle  
Rocklin, CA 95677  
Phone: (408) 209-3647  
baiello556@sbcglobal.net  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. 6:30 p.m.  
106 Sutter Ave.  
Roseville, CA 95678

**SACRAMENTO**  
**LODGE No. 1352**  
*Anniv. Feb. 8, 1925*  
SACRAMENTO  
PRES. DAN MARINELLI  
340 Cabot Court  
Granite Bay, CA 95746  
Phone: (916) 698-2928  
Email: dan.r.marinelli@gmail.com  
Rec. Secty. Verna Carboni  
8345 Keenan Court  
Sacramento, CA 95828  
Phone: (916) 747-5585  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. 7:30 p.m.  
Knights of Columbus Hall  
5961 Newman Court  
Sacramento, CA 95819

**SADDLEBACK VALLEY**  
**LODGE No. 2566**  
*Anniv. Nov. 17, 1984*  
MISSION VIEJO  
PRES. Michael DiGiuro,  
157 Mt. Shasta Drive  
San Pedro, CA 90732  
Phone: {310} 522-9224  
email: mgdigiuro@yahoo.com  
  
Rec. Secty. Bernadine Neil  
2899 Baker St.  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626  
Phone: (714) 979-2996  
Email: bernie1339@sbcglobal.net  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday 6:00 p.m.  
Norman P. Murray Senior Center  
24932 Veterans Way  
Mission Viejo, CA 92692

**SANTA ROSA**  
**LODGE No. 1898**  
*Anniv. July 5, 1940*  
SANTA ROSA  
PRES. JOAN ACQUISTAPACE  
113 Brooktrail Ct.  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409  
Phone: (707) 292-1480  
Rec. Secty. Sue Tunstall  
115 Brooktrail Ct.  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409  
Phone: (707) 570-7779  
Email: sinamon219@att.net  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon. 6:00 p.m.  
Brookwood Mobile Estates  
7000 Montecito Blvd.  
(Mobile Park)  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

**SHASTA**  
**LODGE No. 2453**  
*Anniv. Feb. 23, 1980*  
REDDING  
PRES. JIM NOBILI  
2391 Cumberland Dr.  
Redding, CA 96001  
Phone: (530) 243-4127  
Email: rjnobili@sbcglobal.net  
Rec Secty. Sharon Roberts  
1767 Capistrano Walk  
Redding, CA 96003  
Phone: (530) 221-0720  
email: jimandsharon@charter.net  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon. 7:00 p.m.  
Sons of Italy Hall  
4850 Cedars Road  
Redding, CA 96001

**ST. HELENA**  
**LODGE No. 2077**  
*Anniv. May 28, 1958*  
ST HELENA  
PRES. BILL MURPHY  
1475 Sulphur Springs Ave  
St. Helena, CA 94574  
Phone: (707) (707)963-0521  
Email: petalumabill@gmail.com  
  
Rec. Secty. Keely Dodd  
1475 Sulphur Springs Ave  
St. Helena, CA 94574  
Phone: (707) 251-9558  
Email: keelejo@hotmail.com  
  
Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. 7:00 p.m.  
Native Sons Hall  
1313 Spring Street  
St. Helena, CA 94574

**UKIAH**  
**LODGE No. 2104**  
*Anniv. Apr. 24, 1960*  
REDWOOD VALLEY  
PRES: GARY DOGALI  
P. O. Box 53  
Redwood Valley, CA 95470  
Phone (707) 485-8233  
Email: sdogali@outlook.com  
Rec. Secty. Mary Lynn Hunt  
2581 Mill Creek Rd.  
Ukiah, CA 95482  
Phone: (707) 462-7935  
Email: ml\_laviletta@msn.com  
Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Wed. 6:00 p.m.  
8650 East Road  
Redwood Valley, CA 95470

**VALLEY OF THE MOON**  
**LODGE No. 1959**  
*Anniv. May 17, 1947*  
SONOMA  
PRES. PAUL GRANT  
22500 Burndale Rd.  
Sonoma, CA 95476  
Phone: (707) 815-8410  
Email: 101727PDG@gmail.com  
Rec. Secty. Karen Carroll  
P.O. Box 198  
Sonoma, CA 95476  
Phone: (707) 938-1295  
Email: karenecar@yahoo.com  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues. 7:30 p.m.  
Veterans Memorial Bldg.  
126 First Street, West  
Sonoma, CA 95476

**VINCENZO BELLINI**  
**LODGE No. 2519**  
*Anniv. May 29, 1982*  
CHICO  
PRES. TONY GEORGE  
1925 Nord Ave  
Chico CA 95926  
Email- toeknee05@sbcglobal.net  
Phone: 530-519-8595  
Rec. Secty. Janell Smith  
1385 Banning Park Dr  
Chico, CA 95928  
Phone: (530) 898-8677  
Email: janellsmith2@icloud.com  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. 6:00 p.m.  
ARC Pavilion  
2040 Park Ave,  
Chico, CA 95928

**VIRGILIO**  
**LODGE No. 1586**  
*Anniv. Jan. 4, 1931*  
VALLEJO  
PRES. RAY BINI  
128 Nalisty Drive,  
Vallejo CA 94590  
Phone: (707) 688-3751  
Email: Raymond.Bini@gmail.com  
  
Rec. Secty. Steve Branch  
7 Sleepy Hollow Ct.  
Vallejo, CA 94590  
Phone: (707) 486-2948  
Email: coffeebe@pacbell.net  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues. 8:00 p.m.  
O.S.I. Hall, 621 Carolina St.  
Vallejo, CA 94590

**WATSONVILLE**  
**LODGE No. 2016**  
*Anniv. Nov. 18, 1951*  
WATSONVILLE  
PRES. JANEY LEONARDICH  
940 Green Valley Rd.  
Watsonville, CA 95076  
Phone: (831) 722-7958  
Email: sweetete940@gmail.com  
Rec. Secty. Casey Clark  
30 9th St.  
Watsonville, CA 95076  
Phone: (831) 210-9577  
Email: kcpres@yahoo.com  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. 7:00 p.m.  
Watsonville Women's Club  
12 Brennan St.  
Watsonville, CA 95076

**WEED**  
**LODGE No. 1269**  
*Anniv. Jan. 6, 1924*  
WEED  
PRES. RICHARD NEGRO  
Address: 17417 Jackrabbitt  
Road Weed, CA 96094  
Phone: 530-938-3079  
Email: richardenegro@gmail.com  
Rec. Secty. Peggy Soletti  
P. O. Box 130  
Weed, CA 96094  
Phone: (530) 938-2881  
Email: sole@cot.net  
Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. 6:00 p.m.  
Sons of Italy Memorial Hall  
155 Clay Street  
Weed, CA 96094





# *I'm an Italian American*

*I am an Italian-American. My roots are deep in an ancient soil, drenched by the Mediterranean sun, and watered by pure streams from snow capped mountains.*

*I am enriched by thousands of years of culture.*

*My hands are those of the mason, the artist, the man of the soil.*

*My thoughts have been recorded in the annals of Rome, the poetry of Virgil, the creations of Dante, and the philosophy of Benedetto Croce. I am an Italian-American, and from my*

*ancient world, I first spanned the seas of the new world. I am Cristoforo Colombo.*

*I am Giovanni Caboto known in American history as John Cabot, discoverer of the mainland of North America.*

*I am Amerigo Vespucci, who gave my name to the new world, America.*

*First to sail on the Great Lakes in 1679, founder of the territory that became the State of Illinois, colonizer of Louisiana and Arkansas, I am Enrico Tonti.*

*I am Filippo Mazzei, friend of Thomas Jefferson and my thesis on the equality of man was written into the Bill of Rights.*

*I am William Paca, signer of the Declaration of Independence.*

*I am an Italian-American. I financed the Northwest Expedition of George Rogers Clark and accompanied him through the lands that would become Ohio, Indiana, Illinois,*

*Wisconsin, and Michigan. I am Colonel Francesco Vigo.*

*I mapped the Pacific from Mexico to Alaska and to the Philippines.*

*I am Alessandro Malaspina.*

*I am Giacomo Beltrami, discoverer of the source of the Mississippi River in 1823.*

*I created the Dome of the United States Capitol. They called me the Michelangelo of America. I am Constantino Brumidi.*

*In 1904, I founded in San Francisco, the Bank of Italy now known as the Bank of America, the largest financial institution in the world. I am A. P. Giannini.*

*I am Enrico Fermi, father of nuclear science in America.*

*First enlisted man to win the medal of Honor in World War II,*

*I am John Basilone of New Jersey.*

*I am an Italian-American. I am the million strong who served in America's armies and the tens of thousands whose names are enshrined in military cemeteries*

*from Guadalcanal to the Rhine.*

*I am the steel maker in Pittsburgh, the grower in the Imperial Valley of California, the textile designer in Manhattan, the movie maker in Hollywood, the home maker and the breadwinner in 10,000 communities.*

*I am an American without stint or reservation, loving this land as only one who understands history, its agonies and its triumphs can love it and serve it.*

*I will not be told that my contribution is any less nor my role not as worthy as that of any other American.*

*I will stand in support of this nation's freedom and promise against all foes. My heritage has dedicated me to this nation. I am proud of my full heritage, and I shall remain worthy of it.*

*I Am An Italian-American.*

*by Angelo Bianchi, Esq.*