



Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

December-2007

Polenta Pushers!



Rodney Sell, Vince Sola and Ben Curti dish out the polenta at the Roma Lodge polenta feed.

Another successful polenta dinner was enjoyed by all at the November meeting. Members gathered to have another great polenta feed which has become customary for members at the November meeting. A special thanks goes to all those who pitched in and cooked such a great meal.



New Members Join Lodge

(l-r) Elizabeth and Chris Giannini and their two-week old baby along with Jessica Saltzman.



Serving up the chow!

Amanda Luis and Kylie Cleek assist with serving duties at the polenta dinner.



**Roma Lodge
Christmas Party
Sunday
December 2, 2007
World Ag Expo-Social
Hall
Meeting-12:30 PM
Lunch-1:00 PM**

It is often said that the best we can hope for in this life is to look forward to the golden years of retirement. When you are free to live your life the way you want to without worry and hassle of the everyday life of work and stress.

This past week we bid our final farewell to **Norma Kra-nenburg**, the oldest member of Roma Lodge.



Norma was just a month short of her 98th birthday. She was a member of Roma Lodge for 72- years! Seventy-two years! Can you believe that? Most of us only hope to live that long let alone be a member of the lodge for 72-years!

Norma and husband Leonard were icons for Roma Lodge for many, many years. Leonard was a past president of the lodge and both were delegates to the convention, chairs for many activities and two of the best and most loyal members Roma Lodge has ever had.

In fact Norma was the chair of the annual Christmas party for many years and was famous for her Jello that became a staple menu item for the lodge along with the candied yams, ham and string beans. Norma's birthday is December 30th and she would delight in chairing the annual Christmas party an event that was looked forward to and remembered all year long. Thank you Norma for your dedication and years of service to the lodge.

Norma was certainly fortunate to have lived to be almost 100-years old. She lived in her home since 1938 right across the highway from the old Arden plant in Tipton where Leonard worked for 43 years. She was able to pretty much take care of herself and had already made all the funeral arrangements well in advanced of when she was going to be free of these

earthly bonds.

Whether it was planning, organizing or conducting a Roma Lodge activity or planning her own funeral she knew the protocol she wanted to be followed. End of story. It must have been difficult for her to let go of all those lodge activities that she once did and have those that followed in her footsteps not follow the protocol that she religiously adhered to in everything she did. ***So what about those golden years that everyone talks about?***

As I arrived at the cemetery for Norma's graveside services I noticed her casket sitting on the lowering device and it seemed so isolated and alone. There she was, as she had planned, waiting for Roma Lodge members to pay their final tribute for her 72-years of service. If her death had been 10, 20, or even 30-years ago there would have been standing room only with literally hundreds of lodge members at her side. When you live to be almost 98 just about all your friends and family that shared your life have already completed their journey on this earth. ***Farewell Sister Norma.***

I think about all those lodge activities that Norma missed because she could no longer attend for age or health reasons. I wonder how difficult it must have been for her to sit home all alone and not be able to participate like she once had done. I also wonder about all of our other lodge members who are in a similar situation today. Members that have given so much for so long to Roma Lodge and are unable to come to the meetings or activities because of poor health or their advancing age.

If you listen carefully to the ritual that we read at the graveside of our deceased brothers and sisters we as lodge members promise to give support to our departed members families. It is the holiday season and we should make a special effort to take our holiday dinner to our elderly members who cannot attend our Christmas party. If you know someone that is going to be home alone and unable to attend make arrangements to take them Christmas dinner after the party. If you are a member who cannot attend and would like another member to bring you dinner contact me at **735-9677** or by email at larryd@cos.edu and we will make arrangements to make up dinners for you and deliver them to your home after the party on December 2nd. ***For many the golden years are not what they are promised to be!***

In Memory

Roma Lodge past president Louis (Luigi) Spagnuolo passed away on September 24th in Ventura. He was 83 years of age. Louis was a president of Roma Lodge in 1963-64. Louis was a World War II Navy veteran and earned the European Theater Medal, Asiatic Pacific Medal, American Theater Medal, Victory Medal and commendation by his commanding officer.



His wife of 60 years Connie Spagnuolo was Roma Lodge and Grand Lodge Queen in 1959-60. **Farewell Brother Louis.**

2007-2009 Roma Lodge Officers

Our annual Christmas dinner and program will be Sunday Dec. 2nd at the social hall at the World Ag Expo. A short meeting will be held at 12:30 with lunch to follow at 1 p.m. Each member is asked to bring an item or two for the Ronald McDonald house.

There are many items needed, such as shower curtains, white double bed sheets, mattress covers, white towels, floor mats, silverware, glassware, coffee cups, coffee makers, batteries (all sizes) garden hoses, umbrellas, plug in air fresheners, artificial flowers, laundry detergent, dish soap, bleach, window cleaner, furniture polish, copy paper, crayons, white glue, glue sticks, color books, post it notes, markers, highlighters, Velcro children's scissors, stickers for kids, movies, medium teddy bears, or stuffed animals.

Food supplies such as sugar, spices, flour, pancake mix, syrup, canned foods, boxed foods, snack foods, granola bars, juice boxes, raisins,

nuts, dried fruit, coffee, tea. There are also larger items such as televisions, vacuums, rug shampoos, mini blind dusters, table lamps, folding carts, pots, pans and glass casserole pans.

Remember our Christmas lunch is free for members and only \$5 for guests, so please bring an item or two for our charity. **All the ladies are asked to bring a pie for dessert.**

Children or adults - we would like lots of you to share your talent in our program. Lets have a great turn out this year. Santa will be there with goodies for the kids. If you can help with the lunch, preparing or cleaning up, please contact **Cathy Mederos, 687-1112.**

Dues are Due

Dues need to be paid in January. At this time regular members are \$50 per year. We will be voting at the meeting about a dues increase. Associate and Social members are \$40 per year and junior members are free unless you wish insurance and the cost is \$6.36 per year. Remember students need to be a member for at least one year to qualify for our lodge scholarships. Sign up, there is no cost. **Send dues to our Financial Secretary Cathy Mederos, 415 Lois St. Tulare, 93274.**



Farm Show Coming Soon

Feb. 12-14, 2008

Plan ahead now to work a few hours at our food booth at the Farm Show. We need everyone's help with this fund raising project. Co-Chairs Kathy Dutto, Ken Curti and Ben Curti are working on the details. Please volunteer a little of your time, don't wait to be asked.

It takes at least 20 people per day to help cook, fix sandwiches, wait on customers, refill supplies and cleanup. The booth is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Please do your part to help the lodge.





Roma Lodge
PO Box 1337
Tulare, California 93275
www.romalodge1573.org

Your Roma Lodge Officers

President	Ken Curti (740-0184)
Vice President	David DePaoli (804-5443)
Treasurer	Karen Pedroncelli (732-1591)
Recording Sec.	Nancy Pitigliano (359-1900)
Financial Sec.	Cathy Mederos (687-1112)
Orator	Gary Dutto (686-6201)
Historian	Carole Burner (686-8419)
Guard	Gidio Rasenti (686-4023)
Past President	Charlie Pitigliano(752-4633)

Trustees

Josh Pitigliano	(752-4723)
Mike Saltzman	(686-4340)
Ron Pedroncelli	(732-1591)
Justin Curti	(438-5799)
Michael DePaoli	(361-2345)

Mistress of Ceremony

Frances Della	(784-7653)
Shurene Curti	(740-0184)



Upcoming Events!

December 2nd-Christmas Party

January 7-th-Regular Meeting

February 10th-Cut onions and prep booth for Ag Expo

February 13-15-World Ag Expo

March 3-Regular Meeting and Potluck Dinner 6:30 p.m.

April 7-Regular Meeting and Anniversary Dinner