



# Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

June-2006

## 72nd Annual Ravioli Dinner A Big Success!

**T**he 72nd annual Roma Lodge ravioli dinner was held on Saturday, May 13th at the T.D.E.S. Hall in Tulare. **Sally Curti** did a beautiful job of decorating the facility with checkerboard tablecloths, red napkins and centerpieces of colorful geraniums. Although the morning crew of sauce cookers, decorators and table setters was a bit light, by serving time lodge members and guest helpers arrived on time and worked throughout the evening in cooking and serving up another great meal that all Roma Lodge members can be proud of.

**Kenny and Shurene Curti** along with **Ben and Sally Curti** co-chaired the event. Presi-

dent **Charlie Pitigliano and wife Nancy** played a major role in ensuring that the event came off without a hitch. All lodge members and others that were solicited to help are to be thanked for carrying on the Italian tradition of having a dinner that is so highly sought after by those seeking a great Italian meal.

It takes a lot of members to pull off an event such as the ravioli dinner where over 650 meals are served with true home cooking



David & Michael DePaoli, Nick Canata, Mike Saltzman and Michael Saltzman BBQ the chicken which everyone thought was the best ever!

taste, hot and ready to enjoy. Couple that with great entertainment, music to dine and dance by and a wonderful setting deserves our thanks to the chairs and all those that assisted for another great dinner.



Sally Curti's beautiful decorations were the highlight of the ravioli dinner!

# *If it was so easy....*

Heralds Message

**T**o the casual diner the 72nd annual Roma Lodge Ravioli Dinner was wonderful. The decorations were impeccable, the food divine, the music entertaining and the atmosphere was certainly enjoyable and social. If you paid your \$20 for a ticket and took



the time to join the party inside the TDES Hall you were treated to a great meal and an enjoyable evening of good food and fellowship. Even if you chose to take your meal home as a takeout you still had a great meal and even had a tasty dessert of a Biscotti Cookie! God I love this country!

If you are a lodge member that was able to help out in whatever capacity you could to serve wine, work on the takeout line or cook spaghetti, ravioli or chicken you are to be thanked and congratulated for doing your part in making this Tulare tradition a great event.

Now before we all pat ourselves on the back and think what an easy activity this is to do we better not forget how much work it is on a few of us who stepped to the plate to serve as chairs for this years dinner. Kenny and Shurene Curti along with Ben and Sally Curti are owed the gratitude of the lodge for organizing and conducting such a wonderful evening. Under the leadership of president Charlie Pitigliano and First Lady Nancy the Roma Lodge is very fortun-

nate to have leaders like these folks to make sure all the hours and hours of hard work are done prior to the event. Reservations, decorations, ordering of the food, getting the BBQ, selling tickets, etc., etc., have to be done weeks in advance to pull off an event that is enjoyed by everyone who attends.

I know there are a lot of folks out there who did their part to make this event a success. However, I have learned a long time ago that once you start naming individuals you are always going to leave someone out. So to prevent that, I will stick to the chairs and president of the Lodge. Without all of you, that gave of your time and effort to make the ravioli dinner special you can take pride in your efforts that you have done your part in ensuring that this great tradition continues on.

At this time in our country's history there are a lot of questions about those of have immigrated to this country. The Italian Americans or the American Italians have always taken pride in living in America. Our ancestors have taken advantage of the opportunities that America has to offer through hard work and determination. They have adopted the American culture and took pride in being Americans while preserving the Italian Culture through the Order of Sons of Italy in America.

The ravioli dinner is one of those Italian Culture activities that needs to be preserved to ensure that we all remember where are ancestors have come from. Without the dedication and hard work of our chairs for this event it would fall by the wayside like so many other traditions have done over the years. We all owe the **Curti's** and the **Pitigliano's** a great deal of thanks and appreciation for ensuring that we continue to carry on the dinner's long and prestigious history.

***If being chair of the dinner is so easy, then why doesn't everyone want to do it!***

# Scholarships Awarded



Roma Lodge awarded 3 scholarships of \$500 each to outstanding students this past month. These students will be honored at our August meeting. Come and meet them. Gregory Beecher, Amanda Curti and Ashley Sell all of Tulare Western High. ***Congratulations to these outstanding students!***

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to Ashley Sell for being named Tulare Western High School Prom Queen for 2006. Also our president Charles Pitigliano has been named chair of the Tulare Agri-Center Board. Gregory Beecher received the COS Farm Bureau Scholarship of \$500 and Ken Beecher was selected as the outstanding Vet-Tech student at COS.

If you know someone in the news contact Joann Beecher and she will get it into the newsletter.

## Children's Hospital Donation

On May 16th several members traveled to Children's Hospital of Madera to make a donation to the Sons of Italy Birth Defects Library at the hospital. Roma Lodge donated \$500 along with several other valley lodges and individual donations for research.

After the presentation, guests toured the hospital. Children's Hospital is an outstanding facility that does a tremendous amount of work in helping children with all types of health issues. Roma Lodge and its members can be very proud of their work toward helping to fund this worthwhile charity and all the great things they do for children of the valley.

## July Birthdays

**S**ince we will not have a July meeting because of the Grand Lodge Convention here are the July birthdays. Call them on their special day and wish them a happy birthday. Clarence Costa-2, Daniel Dutto-8, Alex Pelous-9, Renee Marinelli-10, Corrine Canata-12, Agnes Pelous-17, Lawrence

Cotta-19, Gary Giraudi-19, Joe Pedro-19, Albert Rosso-21, Gene Cuelho-22, Marisa Toledo-22, Kathy Dutto-25, Caysen Cuelho-29, Hanna Serafin-29.



Ben Curti, Vince Sola and Rodney Sell served as the sauce patrol as they mixed ravioli and spaghetti with sauce and cooked the green beans. Great job as usual men!

***Italian Cookbooks are still available for \$20 per copy. This includes a CD of Italian Music. Contact Sally Curti if you would like to purchase one or come to the next meeting.***



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 Tulare, California 93274  
[www.romalodge1573.org](http://www.romalodge1573.org)

**Your Roma Lodge Officers**

President Charlie Pitigliano (752-4633)  
 Vice President Ken Curti (740-0184)  
 Treasurer Leroy Beecher (688-8380)  
 Recording Sec. Joann Beecher (688-8380)  
 Financial Sec. Cathy Mederos (687-1112)  
 Orator Gary Dutto (686-6201)  
 Historian Shurene Curti (740-0184)  
 Guard Gidio Rasenti (686-4023)  
 Past President Vince Sola (687-2502)

**Trustees**

Josh Pitigliano (752-4723)  
 Mike Saltzman (686-4340)  
 Jim Luis (688-5187)  
 Phillip Curti (686-3129)  
 Janis Curti (686-3129)

**Mistress of Ceremony**

Frances Della (784-7653)  
 Karen Pedroncelli (732-1591)



**Special Thanks**

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**June 2006**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Jeri Sell	3 Renee Bassett
4 Frank Goni Kylee Cleek	5	6 Jeff Jordan	7 Kathy Chavez	8	9 Bill Rambo	10
11 Louie Clarot Giovanna DePaoli	12	13 Frances Della	14 Arlo Zinda Frances Della	15	16 Marjorie Boyer Ida Harris	17
18	19	20 John Bassett Chris Clark	21 Connie Spagnuolo	22 Teresa Blua	23 Bert Berra	24 Mike Federghi
25	26 Megan Mederos Lisa Sotelo Rick Vincent	27	28 Jason Carter	29 Joey Baretto Angie Milanesio	30	