



# Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

May-2019

## 89th Anniversary!

Our April meeting marked the first time we had a national president attend our meeting. **Vera Girolami**, OSIA president and **Arlene Nunziati**, State First Vice President joined over 100 members and guests at the 89th Anniversary Celebration. 72 members were presented milestone membership certificates, **Nancy and Charlie**, along with the **Pitigliano Family** teamed with **Frank and Joseph Goni** to serve a wonderful Italian Sausage and Risotto dinner. **Tessa Hall** served delicious **Ciao Cow Creamery** gelato sponsored by **Ben and Ken Curti**. **Julia Galvan** sang the National Anthem. It was a great event enjoyed by all.



**60+ Year Members**  
**Ron Pedroncelli, Philip Curti, Sharon Barreto, Vera Girolami, Joann Beecher, Gary Dutto**



**50 Year Members**  
**Nick Serafin, Frances Della, Vince Sola, Giovanna DePaoli, Vera Girolami, David Milanesio, Ben Curti, Steve Milanesio,**



**40 Year Members**  
**Charlie and Nancy Pitigliano along with National President Vera Girolami**

**May Meeting**  
**Monday, May 6th!**  
**Sal Chiaramonte Family**  
**has a special dinner planned.**  
**Don't Miss It!**

**10 Year Members**  
**Amie Pitigliano and**  
**Gianna Benedetti**  
**along with Vera**  
**Girolami**



## Q&A-The Rest of the Story!

Presidents Message

**T**ransparency is a word we hear often in today's society. With the Russian probe, the Mueller Report, Wikileaks, etc., etc., it seems everyone wants to know everything about everything as soon as it happens. The media falls all over itself reporting on activities without doing fact checking and there is a great deal of fake news out there.



In the spirit of full **transparency** some of you may be interested as to what was transpiring in the small conference room adjacent to our meeting room when we celebrated our lodge 89th anniversary. I'm sure there were some puzzled looks on faces of many members when the National President, **Vera Girolami** and State Vice President **Arlene Nunziati** came out of the room with a lot of members from other lodges!

What could possibly be going on? Are they here to indict our president? Is the lodge going to be shutdown and are they going to take away our charter? Where will I be able to go once a month on Monday night for a delicious meal? **Hysteria was running rampant!**

I'm here to set the record straight and put everyone's mind at ease. In February, Arlene contacted me and indicated she would like to attend our meeting in April along with Vera. Arlene is running for Grand Lodge President and would like to visit our lodge. **Nice!**

In March at the United Lodge meeting there were several questions about the Grand Lodge and the upcoming convention. As your worthy president I asked if they would like a Q&A session prior to our meeting so they could submit and ask questions of Arlene as she is running for state president.

Members of other lodges submitted questions which I sent to Arlene and Vera and they were gracious enough to meet with the group prior to the meeting to discuss these issues.

Pretty simple idea that was well received and a lot of good ideas were exchanged and Vera and



Arlene Nunziati

Arlene were very interested in what was said.

As your president my goal is simply to have monthly meetings with a good dinner, short business meeting, a maximum of being fraternal and over by 8:15 p.m. for kids, young parents and those that have to go to work the next day.

At our April meeting to accomplish those goals we had to have our Q&A session before the meeting. We had a full agenda of the initiation of new members, presentation of milestone memberships and picture taking. That is why we did the Q&A before the meeting.

At our May meeting we will have **John Costa**, State President, attend our meeting. We will provide him the same questions we had for Arlene as he is running for reelection in June. We will also be inviting representatives from United Lodges to attend the meeting as well.

I'm inviting all members of Roma Lodge who would like to hear the questions we plan to ask John to attend the Q&A session starting at 5:30 prior to our meeting. We will devote about 45 minutes prior to our dinner for the session and if you would like to be there to ask questions about the Grand Lodge please feel free to attend.

If you would like to rely on your officers and state delegates to represent you on these issues then you can plan to attend just the meeting. We will have a full discussion of both Q&A sessions at our June meeting prior to convention for Roma Lodge member input for our delegates. We hope that this arrangement will fit with everyone's schedule and level of interest in those running for state offices.

We have to remember that the Order is a fraternal organization and that everyone associated with it volunteers their time and talents to carry on the Italian Culture in America. As lodge members we are all responsible for the organization and we need to work together to ensure the organization remains strong for many years to come. Previous generations of our families started Roma Lodge 89 years ago and have passed that responsibility on to us and it is our duty to pass it on to the next generations. **As Paul Harvey always said, "and now you know the rest of the story."**



State President  
John Costa

## New Members



(l-r) **Emily Semoes**, held by grandmother Cathy Mederos, **Camilla Pitigliano**, held by father Dominic Pitigliano, and **Richelle Chiaramonte**, were presented membership packets by National President **Vera Girolami**.



### *Junior Members-Our Future!*

**Pam Sola** has done an outstanding job as our junior member advisor. At the anniversary meeting she had the junior members make a sign for the meeting and posed with Vera Girolami. At the 150th anniversary of the lodge they will look back on this special memory.

### 15 Year Member

**Julia Galvan** was home on spring break and received her 15 year membership certificate. She was also able to sing the National Anthem for the meeting.



## Special Note

In last months **LeNotizie** two of our 20 year members **Michael and Joey Barreto** were inadvertently left on the list. They have been mailed their certificates.

To see all the pictures from the 89th Anniversary meeting go to the Roma Lodge website hyperlinked below. If you see a picture you like send an email to [larrydutto@yahoo.com](mailto:larrydutto@yahoo.com) and he will send it to you.

<https://www.romalodge1573.org/>

## 84th Annual Ravioli Dinner!

**Ken Curti, Charlie Pitigliano, and Cathy Mederos** will be chairing the 84th annual ravioli dinner on May 11th at the TDES Hall in Tulare.

The drive through format has been well received.

Make sure you get your tickets to sell from **Cathy Mederos** ASAP. Tickets are only \$20 per person. Those of you who have already gotten your tickets make sure you turn in the money or let Cathy know at the May 6th meeting.



## Scholarships

**Frances Della** and the Roma Lodge Scholarship Committee have made the selections for this years recipients. The winners will be featured in the June edition of the **LeNotizie**. The lodge will host the winners and their families at a special event on June 3rd during our June meeting. The **Sola Family** will be doing refreshments that night so make plans to attend.



## Sunshine News

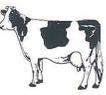
Get well wishes are extended to **Dolly Klienmans** who fell and broke her hip and is still recovering. Condolences are extended to **Kathryn Sola** on the passing of her mother.

*The 2019-20 Lodge Directories Are Here!  
Come to the May meeting and get yours!*



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

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**Your Roma Lodge Officers  
 2019-2020**

President	Larry Dutto (901-4683)
Vice President	Louie Benedetti (827-1492)
Treasurer	Karen Pedroncelli (732-1591)
Recording Sec.	Kathryn Gomes (331-0025)
Financial Sec.	Pam Sola (901-1781)
Orator	Gary Dutto (686-6201)
Historian	Melissa Watkins (361-0811)
Guard	Ken Bertorelli (788-8496)
Past President	David DePaoli (804-5443)
Chaplain	Nicole Taylor (804-7056)

**Trustees**

Danny Dutto	(686-1348)
Mike Saltzman	(686-4340)
Matt Watkins-Chair	(647-7161)
Dominic Pitigliano	(359-1907)
Rob Pinkerton	(331-3183)

**Mistress of Ceremony**

Frances Della	(784-7653)
Toni Pinkerton	(331-3183)

**May Meeting  
 May 6, 2019**

**6:30 PM-Dinner**

**5:30 Q&A Session**

**Chiaramonte Family  
 Dinner Chairs**



**5 Year Members**

**Isaac Pitigliano, Leslie DePaoli, Isabel Daramy,  
 Vera Girolami, Pam Chiaramonte, Sal Chiaramonte  
 and Anthony Chiaramonte.**