



Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

June-2017

2017 Scholarships



2017 Roma Lodge Scholarships

(l-r) *Gabrielle Benedetti*, *Dayton Pitigliano*, *Chloe Cushing* and scholarship chair *Frances Della*. *Sydney Reinart* was unable to attend.

Frances Della and her committee did an outstanding job of getting out applications, reviewing them and selecting a group of outstanding students to receive the 2017 Roma Lodge \$1,000 scholarships. *Rob and Toni Pinkerton* chaired the refreshment duties which were great. Go to the Roma Lodge website and see some great photos of the award ceremonies at the May meeting. <http://www.romalodge1573.org/>

Meeting
Monday
June 5, 2017
6:30 P.M.

Benedetti Family-Frances Della
Refreshment Chairs

Ravioli Dinner Drive Through!

After 80+ years Roma Lodge broke with some long held traditions by having a “drive through only” ravioli dinner.

Declining numbers of inside diners and

the costs associated with having a band, decorations, table clothes, etc., etc. it made sense to explore the idea of a drive through dinner.

There was some lost ticket sales from those who wanted a sit down option however with dropping the price to \$20 increased sales resulted in nearly 800 dinners being served. The final budget will be discussed at the June meeting but all indications are that the dinner was a big success.

Co-chairs *Cathy Mederos* and *Ken Curti* are to be thanked for all their efforts in coordinating the event.

Special thanks goes to *Charlie Pitigliano* who had to step in for Kenny after he had major back surgery just a week before the event. About 50 members showed up to make the dinner a success. *Dennis Mederos* coordinated the drive through lanes with signs and lane barriers. It takes a lot of hard work to make the dinner

a success and everyone commented the drive

through was a big plus with participants able to stay in their cars and had to only

wait a minute or two and they were able to pickup their meals to take home an enjoy.



Aaron Dutto making a check in sign for the drive through.

2 More W's To Consider!

Heralds Message

Last June in my Herald's message I wrote about a reporters 5 W's when reporting on a news event. Who, What, When, Where and Why and how these items must be included in an effective news story. I also documented how these principles of good reporting relate to our annual ravioli dinner.

We pretty much agreed that **Why** we did the dinner was because it is our major fundraiser, **Who** it was for, was the community to understand what the lodge does in carrying on the Italian traditions and **What** should the price be if we did only take outs?

The **Why** and **Who** remained the same and the **What** changed the price to \$20 and a drive through which turned out to be a big success with nearly 200 more dinners being served at this years event. Everyone I sold tickets to loved the drive through and the food! They were so glad they did not have to leave their car and stand in line to wait for their dinners.

So that leaves two W's to consider for our next dinner. The first is **Where**. The TDES Hall has been upgraded and is an outstanding venue for the dinner. It has an ideal location, easily accessible, plenty of kitchen space and outdoor areas to do the cooking.

Cathy Mederos has an excellent working relationship with the group and they were very accommodating and charged us for only the use of the kitchen and bar areas which was a big savings on expenses. However, the hall had a big function on Friday evening, our dinner on Saturday and a Mother's Day Sunday Brunch the day after our event. Is it time to consider discussing the **Where** in our 5 W's?

Finally, how about **When**? A cursory look at the local newspaper indicated there were dozens of events going on during the weekend of the dinner. Everything from fundraisers, high school proms, graduations, weddings and of course Mother's Day!

We are asking a lot of our members to work at the dinner when they may have to prepare a meal the next day for Mother's Day or travel a long distance to be with their mothers. I think we can all agree there are **too many events going on in May!**

Eighty-plus years ago I do not know why the annual ravioli dinner was held in May on Mother's Day weekend. I do know each year the members who put in long hours to put on the event often mention they have many other activities to do the same weekend and have to find time to help with the dinner. Some members can't help at all because of other events or activities they are involved with their families.

We have always referred to the dinner as the **"May"** dinner. I guess if 80 years ago we had the dinner in August it would be the **"August"** dinner and if it were in March it would be the **"March"** dinner.

If you look in the **Il Leone** other lodges hold their major fundraising dinners in conjunction with a major Italian event or American Holiday. Some have a St.

Patrick's Dinner, others Mardi Gras celebration dinner or Columbus Day and choose not to name it after one of the months of the year.

Currently we do not have a chairperson for our annual Columbus Day celebration. Other than the members of Roma Lodge and a number of banks who close, few if any people even pay attention to Columbus Day.

The past several years the Columbus Holiday has been under attack with opponents wanting to do away with the Christopher Columbus holiday and call it **Indigenous Peoples Day** which has already occurred in many cities and states across America.

So if we held our annual ravioli dinner on Columbus Day weekend each year we would be tying our dinner to the month that Columbus discovered America on October 12, 1492 which would at least give our dinner more credence into carrying on the Italian Culture. **Let's think about it!**



Veterinarian Grad!

Roma Lodge member **Christina Sparlin** recently graduated from Washington State University with her degree in veterinarian medicine. She did her undergraduate work at UC Davis and is the daughter of **Tina and Brent Sparlin** and granddaughter of **Florena and Cedric Klienhaus**.



NEW MECHANIC!

Garrett Costa, past Roma Lodge scholarship winner, finished his mechanic training at the Reedley College CAT Equipment Technician program and is working for OXBO. He is pictured with parents **Eddie and Krisi Costa**.



Teacher of the Year Part Deux!

Last year Roma Lodge member **Anica Gentry** was selected by the McFarland School District as Teacher of the Year at Browning Road primary school where she was the Transitional Kindergarten teacher. McFarland built a new school Horizon Elementary which opened last year. Anica moved to the new school and was selected as the first Teacher of the Year for Horizon.



Masters Degree

Natalie Maness received her Masters in Teaching from National University. Natalie teaches at Alpine Elementary school in Tulare.



CLUB CHAMP!

Ben Curti shot a 69-66=135 to win the 3rd flight of the Valley Oaks Men's Club Championship for the second year in a row. He was tied for the tournament lead after the first round and won by a stroke on the second day to win the tournament.



United Lodges!



Roma Lodge President and First Lady **David and Giovanna DePaoli** represented Roma Lodge at the United Lodge meeting at the Enrico Caruso Lodge in Visalia. Presentations were made to the Valley Children's Hospital where Roma Lodge gave a \$1,000 donation. All Roma Lodge members should be thanked for their help in fundraising so that the lodge could make this contribution as part of United Lodges.

Savina Elena Pedroncelli

Roma Lodge member **Shaun Pedroncelli and wife Sylvia** are the proud parents of **Savina Elena Pedroncelli** born on May 9th. Savina weighed in at 6 lbs and 7 oz and is 19 inches long. She is the granddaughter of **Ron and Karen Pedroncelli** and the great granddaughter of **Lillian Cotta**.





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

There are a few Roma Lodge
Calendars available. Get yours
today!



GOT NEWS!

If you have news for the **LeNotizie** send
it to Larry Dutto at larrydutto@yahoo.com by
the 20th of each month.

Your Roma Lodge Officers

President	David DePaoli (804-5443)
Vice President	Michael DePaoli (730-1168)
Treasurer	Karen Pedroncelli (732-1591)
Recording Sec.	Giovanna DePaoli (361-0640)
Financial Sec.	Pam Sola (901-1781)
Orator	Gary Dutto (686-6201)
Historian	Melissa Watkins (361-0811)
Guard	Ken Bertorelli (788-8496)
Past President	Nick Canata (661-978-9331)
Chaplain	Kathy Canata (281-5294)

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)

Meeting

June 5, 2017
6:30 PM-Dinner

May Dinner
RECAP
Grand Lodge
Convention

Refreshment Chairs
Benedetti Family
Frances Della

Members having birthdays
in June should call them and
see how you can help and
don't forget your raffle prizes.

Jordyn Dutto was drawn at
the May Meeting and was not
present.