



Roma
Lodge 1573
ORDER
Sons and Daughters of Italy
IN AMERICA

Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

January-2026

Santa Fans!



I asked **Frances Della** at the Roma Lodge Christmas Party if she had attended all of the lodge parties for the last 95 years and she said pretty much. Over 100 members and guests attended this years party on December 7th.

Chair of the event, **Leslie DePaoli** did a magnificent job in decorating the venue and ensuring that everyone had a great time. Husband **Michael DePaoli** along with **Dominic and Josh Pitigliano** prepared a wonderful meal of steak, ravioli, green beans and salad.

Of course a great meal is always followed by some-



one who has to do the cleanup. Thank goodness Roma Lodge has **Anthony Casalicchio** from Springville who drives all the way down from the mountains to help do the cleanup. Anthony is so dedicated he shows up to help out whenever he is needed. He can always be found doing the dirty work after the cooking is done to help do the pots and pans needed to put

on a great meal. When you see him give a special thank you for all he does for the lodge.

Michael DePaoli along with sisters **Maci Daramy and Melissa Watkins** created some great appetizers for everyone to enjoy before lunch was served. If you look back at past issues of the **LeNotizie** you will see numerous articles about



Michael. He cooks the polenta and stew for our meeting, cooks the risotto and sausage for the April meeting, barbecues the chicken for the ravioli dinner and has chaired the farm show booth for the lodge since 2013. **He is our future!**

Juniors Rock!

Pam Sola along with Junior Ambassador Leader **Giulia Watkins** led the junior members in providing talent and welcoming Santa Claus to the celebration. More great pictures can be found on the Roma Lodge website. romalodge1573.org



January Meeting
Monday-January 5th
6 p.m.

Second Thoughts!

Presidents Message

I had written a long thought provoking article about the future of Roma Lodge. However, since it is the holidays I decided just to post some great pictures from our party. Enjoy!



Dues are now Due!

Below is the breakdown for your 2026 dues. There will not be an increase in your dues this year and for a regular member dues will be \$85 per adult. Junior members are free unless they want the insurance benefit which will be \$7 for Roma Lodge members.

Bring your dues checks to the January 5th meeting and give them to our financial secretary **Giovanna DePaoli**.

If you cannot attend the meeting mail your dues to:

Roma Lodge #1573
PO Box 1337
Tulare, California 93275

If your dues are not paid by the end of the first quarter you will be dropped as a lodge member. We also want to remind members if you have the insurance benefit you need to keep your beneficiary information up-to-date.

Roma Lodge Dues	2026
Grand Lodge Per Capita	\$ 32.51
Supreme Lodge Per Capita	\$ 21.52
Il Leone	\$ 4.98
Scholarship Assessment	\$ 0.74
Life Insurance	\$ 15.00
Local Dues	\$ 10.25
Total	\$ 85.00
Junior Member-Insurance	\$ 7.00

Roma Lodge members were very generous at the Christmas Party by donating \$1,580 to the Central Valley Honor Flight. The donations have been sent to their treasurer who will notify us when they receive them. This is the third year we have donated totaling nearly \$4,500 to the program. If you would like to learn more about the program go to their website at:



[Welcome to Central Valley Honor Flight! - Central Valley Honor Flight](http://www.centralvalleyhonorflight.org)

Thanks to all who donated!

Junior Ambassador Corner

Our Junior Ambassador leader **Giulia Watkins** has been busy planning activities for our junior members. Giulia and other members of our junior ambassador group came up with a great idea for our Christmas party.

She ordered tree ornaments in which the junior members who attended the event affixed the **Order of Sons and Daughters in Italy** logo with Mod Podge and wrote their names and date on the back to take home and put on their own tree. What a great idea!

Giulia will be holding another zoom call soon with junior ambassadors to plan a fun activity during the holiday break. If your child would like to become part of the junior ambassador group contact Giulia at 1-559-848-7089 or giulamwatkins@gmail.com) **Great Job Giulia!**



Giana Daramy led the flag salute at the party.



Kate Watkins dazzled the crowd with her dance routine.



Pam Solo Ran the juniors through their paces.



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Your Roma Lodge Officers 2025-2026

President	Larry Dutto (901-4683)
Vice President	Justin Curti-(906-9109)
Treasurer	Karen Pedroncelli (732-1591)
Recording Sec.	Renee Marinelli (732-8258)
Financial Sec.	Giovanna DePaoli (361-0640)
Orator	Anthony Chiamonte (217-4055)
Historian	Melissa Watkins (361-0811)
Guard	Frank Marinelli (802-0611)
Past President	David DePaoli (804-5443)
Chaplain	Nicole Taylor (804-7056)

Trustees

Louie Benedetti	(827-1492)
Mike Saltzman	(686-4340)
Matt Watkins-Chair	(647-7161)
Dominic Pitigliano	(359-1907)
Michael DePaoli	(730-1168)

Mistress of Ceremony

Joann Beecher (688-8380)

Next Meeting
Monday, January 5th
6:00 PM



Dinner Hosts
Frank and Renee Marinelli