



Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

March-2023

Most Successful Ever!

The 2023 World Ag Expo is officially over. The Roma Lodge food booth has been closed up for another year by chair **Michael DePaoli**. Michael along with sisters **Melissa Watkins** and **Maci Daramy** have just completed their 10th year of organizing, managing and working with lodge members to provide a great menu for the WAE visitors.



The first day of the show featured cold and windy conditions and kept most of the crowd inside the show tents. Wednesday had one of the largest crowds ever and Thursday was also a big day even with the cold weather.

With the help of over 50 lodge members the booth was the most successful ever. A complete financial accounting will be given at the March meeting.

March Meeting

Monday-March 6, 2023

WAE Social Hall

6:30 PM

Potluck!

Roma Lodge Scholarships

Due-March 1st

Contact Melissa Watkins

559-361-0811

March Potluck!

It is hard to believe it has been three years since we have had our traditional March meeting potluck at the lodge. We will bring back the popular activity for our meeting on March the 6th.



Bring your favorite main dish and salad or dessert. The lodge will provide plates, utensils, bread and drinks. We have some great cooks in the lodge so bring your favorite dish to share with everyone. **Joanne Beecher** is our chair for the potluck. Call her and ask if you can help.

Thanks Bill!

We had over 50 members participate in the WAE food booth this year. We are officially recognizing Roma Lodge member **Bill Benedetti** as the member of the month. Bill volunteers at Gate 6 for over 3 weeks during the WAE show.



In years past Bill has always been available to shuttle members to and from the entrance gates, provide rides to the bank on the show grounds and ferry materials and supplies to the booth during the show.

This year he went above and beyond his duties, assisting Roma Lodge members. **Thanks Bill!**

Volunteers Are Not Paid: They are Priceless!

I stole this quote off of a social media sight and thought it best describes Roma Lodge members who helped out in the food booth.

Over 50 members assisted cutting onions, cooking and serving food and waiting on customers during the WAE. I certainly want to thank all the members who helped, in which has now become our major fundraiser for the year.

Special thanks goes to our chairs **Michael DePaoli**, **Melissa Watkins** and **Maci Daramy** who spend countless hours doing everything associated with the show.

None of this would be possible without the support of the **Pitigliano Family** who store all the equipment, pots, pans and burners for cooking of the onions, peppers, pasta and sauce during the week.

Karen DeGroot and Joyce Hofstee put together a great lunch for the onion cutting and meeting on Sunday before the show and then worked each day in the booth. **Thank You!**

Special thanks to **Jo-**



seph Goni, Ben Filiponi and Nick Serafin who worked each day in boiling and barbecuing the Italian sausage each day. It takes a lot of work, time and effort to make the food booth the best meal on the

Joanne Beecher attended the show making the morning coffee, setting out the condiments on the tables, waiting on customers and doing whatever it took to ensure the success of the booth.



David DePaoli was at the show everyday and continued his great work in cooking the onions and peppers.

Josh, Michael and Dominic Pitigliano took over the pasta and sauce making each day along with **Tina Sparlin** who was there each day making up sandwiches and serving pasta.



Anthony Casalicchio and Nicole Taylor worked hard waiting on customers and preparing food for hungry show visitors. **Frank and Renee Marinelli along with Elisabeth Curti** were also there to assist with operating the booth.



Thanks to all the members who assisted during the show!

show grounds.

Decision Time!

Grand Lodge, OSDIA and Roma Lodge dues were due on January 1, 2023. Below are the breakdown of where your \$75 dues goes:

Roma Lodge Dues	2024
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 \$0.25 Cents	\$ 0.25
Total	\$ 75.00
Junior Member-Insurance	\$ 6.36

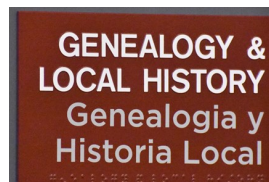
As you can see only \$.25 cents of your dues goes to Roma Lodge. If you are paying your dues thinking you are supporting Roma Lodge we only get a small portion of the dues you pay. With the pandemic and loss of revenue from our fundraisers it may become necessary in the future to raise our dues. Each person and family will need to decide if they want to continue their membership for 2023.

We ask everyone to pay their dues by March 31, 2023 or we will have to drop your membership. Roma Lodge has to pay the Grand Lodge and OSDIA dues quarterly. Therefore, the lodge cannot support members who do not pay their dues on time.

Tulare Public Library

Roma Lodge has several scrapbooks put together by historians of the past. **Perina Giraudi** did an outstanding job for many years putting together scrapbooks of lodge events, newspaper articles and other memorabilia to record the history of the lodge.

Unfortunately, since we do not own our own building these scrapbooks have been stored in many lodge presidents garages or storage units. Now, you can visit the Tulare Public Library's Genealogy Department and view the books whenever you wish. Special thanks to **Louise Tesoriere** from the Hanford Lodge who volunteers at the library in Tulare.



Where is the Beef!

Did you have to work, go to school, have health issues or just plain too old to fight the crowds at the WAE and attend the show to help out at the Roma Lodge food booth? There are other ways you can help.

Lodge members Katrina and Brian Rainey were unable to attend the show this year and chose to donate the beef needed to make the sauce for the pasta at the show. Donating or sponsoring supplies for the show increases the lodge profits without having to pay the 15% commission charged by the farm show or the 8.5% sales tax charged by the state.

Next year we will provide a list of supplies needed for the show and you may want to donate funds to assist the lodge in making a profit. Chair **Michael DePaoli** has a complete list of the supplies needed for the show so contact him at **730-1168** if you would like to donate to this years show. **Thanks again to RAINIMADE BEEF for their donation this year!**

Officer Installation



It is difficult to imagine our last installation of Roma Lodge officers was back in 2019. The pandemic caused the 2019-2020 officers to be renewed in 2021-2022 so we kept the same slate of officers. Now, we have a new slate which will be installed at the March meeting on March 6th. Our new officers are listed on the back page of the LeNotizie. See you on the 6th!

Go to the Roma Lodge website, [Home | roma-lodge \(romalodge1573.org\)](http://Home|roma-lodge(romalodge1573.org)) to see some great pictures of this years WAE food booth.





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**Your Roma Lodge Officers
 2023-2024**

- | | |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| President | Larry Dutto (901-4683) |
| Vice President | Justin Curti (906-9109) |
| Treasurer | Karen Pedroncelli (732-1591) |
| Recording Sec. | Renee Marinelli (732-8258) |
| Financial Sec. | Tina Sparlin (741-3642) |
| 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) |
| Junior Members | Pam Sola (901-1781) |

Trustees

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

Mistress of Ceremony

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| Joann Beecher | (260-4156) |
|---------------|------------|

**Next Meeting
 March 6, 2023**

6:30 PM
WAE-Social Hall

Potluck



**Thanks to all our Junior Members
 who helped at the food booth!**