



# Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

September 2023



## **Roma Lodge Junior Member Night**

Giana Daramy, Kate Watkins, Domenica Curti, Adelyn Watkins, Isabel Daramy, Giulia Watkins, Amelia Curti, Giada Pitigliano, Camellia Pitigliano, Camden Taylor, Michael Chiaramonte, Isabelle Perry, Ava James Clark, Nolan Clark, Austin Gentry, Taylor Dutto, Ariel Maness, George Maness, Isaac Pitigliano, Wessel Pitigliano. Not pictured-Jordyn Dutto & Aiden Gentry

## **The Future Is Bright!**

What has become the best meeting of the year, Roma Lodge members, enjoyed a great Junior Member Night on August 7th. Nearly 80 members and guests were on hand to watch the juniors conduct the meeting and enjoy some great back-to-school items for the upcoming school year.

We need to thank all the parents who took time out of their busy schedule to ensure their children got to participate in the meeting. These kids will always



remember these activities and will want to retain their membership in the Order when they become parents. Without local lodges focusing on their junior members with activities during meetings and other events many lodges will go by the wayside in the future.

## **Roma Lodge Upcoming Events!**

**September 11th  
Regular Meeting-Dinner @ 6 p.m.  
Berra Family Dinner Hosts**

**October 2nd-Regular Meeting  
Dinner @ 6 p.m.  
Justin Curti Family Dinner Hosts**

**October 8th  
Columbus Day Celebration  
Mooney's Grove Park**

**October 28th  
Ravioli Drive Thru Dinner  
IAC Social Hall**

**November 6th-Regular Meeting  
DePaoli Family Dinner Hosts**

**December 3rd-Christmas Party  
Leslie DePaoli-Chair**

# We Are Due?

Presidents Message

**D**id you know that the Sons and Daughters of Italy bylaws indicate local lodge dues should be \$12 per year? Of the \$75 we pay each year only \$.25 cents stays with our local lodge. We have not increased our dues since 2017 when the Grand Lodge increased their dues by 59% from 2011 levels. We saw a dues increase in 2011 to \$65 and then again in 2015 to \$75 as shown in the chart below.

	2011	2015	2016	2017	2024
Grand Lodge Per Capita	\$ 20.51	\$ 30.51	\$ 31.51	\$ 32.51	\$ 32.51
Supreme Lodge Per Capita	\$ 21.00	\$ 21.52	\$ 21.52	\$ 21.52	\$ 21.52
Il Leone	\$ 4.98	\$ 4.98	\$ 4.98	\$ 4.98	\$ 4.98
Scholarship Assessment	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.74
Life Insurance	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00
State & National	\$ 62.23	\$ 72.75	\$ 73.75	\$ 74.75	\$ 74.75
Roma Lodge Dues	\$ 2.77	\$ 2.25	\$ 1.25	\$ 0.25	\$ 10.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 65.00</b>	<b>\$ 75.00</b>	<b>\$ 75.00</b>	<b>\$ 75.00</b>	<b>\$ 85.00</b>
Junior Member	\$ 6.36	\$ 6.36	\$ 6.36	\$ 6.36	\$ 7.00

Our share of the pie has gradually decreased to \$.25 cents since 2017. Now, it appears the Grand Lodge, with the sale of the Grand Lodge building and liquor license should be financially solvent and should not have to increase dues for the foreseeable future.

When we make economic decisions we always ask what our return on investment will be. As shown in the chart below if you or your family participate in all the activities of the lodge including monthly meetings, Columbus Day, ravioli dinner, farm show and Christmas party you and your children can get a big return on your dues. For a family of four you net \$860 on your dues investment!

Roma Lodge Benefits	Number	Dinner	Member	Parents	Two Kids	Total
Monthly Meetings	11	\$ 10.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 220.00	\$ 220.00	\$ 440.00
Columbus Day	1	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 60.00
Christmas Party	1	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 80.00
Farm Show Admission	3	\$ 20.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 240.00
Farm Show Food	3	\$ 12.00	\$ 36.00	\$ 72.00	\$ 72.00	\$ 144.00
Ravioli Dinner	1	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 80.00
<b>Total</b>			\$ 261.00	\$ 522.00	\$ 522.00	\$ 1,044.00
<b>Dues</b>			\$ 85.00	\$ 170.00	\$ 184.00	\$ 184.00
<b>Net</b>			\$ 176.00	\$ 352.00	\$ 338.00	\$ 860.00

Now, if you do not or cannot participate in lodge activities, your contribution to Roma Lodge will only be \$10.24 per year. A pretty inexpensive investment to carrying on your Italian Culture. Each of will have to decide if our investment in the Grand Lodge and OSDIA is worth it.

In addition to a \$10 increase in dues for regular and associate members, I'm also proposing a \$.64 cent increase in the Junior Member death benefit fee for accounting purposes only. Hopefully, the 64 cent increase does not prevent parents from providing the death benefit for their children. We will discuss a dues increase at our September meeting and Vote at the November meeting as to whether or not to increase our dues by \$10.

## Death Benefit

If you are a regular member of Roma Lodge you pay \$15 each year for the Grand Lodge Death Benefit. In the chart are is the benefit

Death Benefit		
Member	Age	Benefit
Junior	14 days-5 months	\$ 500.00
Junior	6 mo-17 years old	\$ 1,000.00
Junior	18-25 years old	\$ 1,000.00
Regular	25-49 years old	\$ 2,000.00
Regular	50-64 years old	\$ 1,000.00
Regular	Over 65 years old	\$ 500.00

your designated beneficiary receives. (After they have filed a ton of paperwork)

At the current \$15 per year you pay it will take 33

years of membership for your beneficiary to get your investment back. If you are a member for 50 years and just put the money in the bank your family would get an extra \$250!

Here is the caveat. The OSDIA bylaws state you cannot be a

**Regular Member** unless you take the death benefit when

you join the Order. You can on-

ly choose to **NOT** include the death benefit plan when you join. If you didn't and want to drop the plan you have to drop your membership and rejoin as a new member. Then you must sign a waiver with two witnesses indicating you do not want the death benefit. Then you are an **Associate** member. **INTERESTING?**

Years	Death Benefit		Profit Loss
	Rate/Year		
	\$ 15.00		
5	\$ 75.00	\$ (425.00)	
10	\$ 150.00	\$ (350.00)	
15	\$ 225.00	\$ (275.00)	
20	\$ 300.00	\$ (200.00)	
25	\$ 375.00	\$ (125.00)	
30	\$ 450.00	\$ (50.00)	
<b>33</b>	<b>\$ 495.00</b>	<b>\$ (5.00)</b>	
35	\$ 525.00	\$ 25.00	
40	\$ 600.00	\$ 100.00	
45	\$ 675.00	\$ 175.00	
50	\$ 750.00	\$ 250.00	
55	\$ 825.00	\$ 325.00	
60	\$ 900.00	\$ 400.00	
65	\$ 975.00	\$ 475.00	
70	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 550.00	

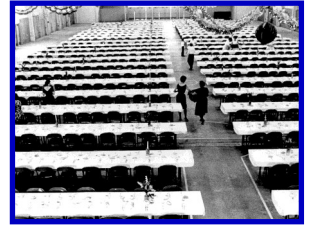
## Member Spotlight!

Roma Lodge members **Trevor and Mia Filiponi** were recognized by the Mt. Whitney FFA Chapter for their outstanding achievements. Trevor was selected as the Star Chapter Member and Mia as the Star Greenhand. Congratulations to them both!



## Ravioli Dinner

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, October 28th** for our traditional ravioli dinner. Roma Lodge started these dinners in 1934 and peaked in the 1950's with over 1250 people attending the event at the Elliott Auditorium at the Tulare County Fair Grounds. It has been the social event of the Tulare community for over 80 years.



The 2020 pandemic put an end to the traditional May dinner and as Roma Lodge members we need to bring this event back. Now, we realize we have changed the dinner over the years. We have gone from the fair grounds, to the Memorial Hall, to the Tulare Senior Center, to the TDES Hall and now to the IAC Social Hall.

As the number of attendees was reduced from a sit-down format to more drive thru diners we have gone to an all takeout event. What has remained



the same is the great food that our members cook and serve.

As we have gone from a May to October date we have done so with two

things in mind. First, having the dinner the day before Mother's Day always made it very difficult for our mothers who had to work very hard at the dinner and had little time for families to prepare for their own Mother's Day family celebrations.



Second, the City of Tulare has designated October as Italian Heritage Month to coincide with Columbus Day. Having our ravioli dinner during October is a natural time to have the event. We all need to re-engage in showcasing our Italian Culture to the Tulare Community by putting on a great meal.



Special thanks goes to **Beverly Broberg** who donated the 50/50 raffle back to the lodge for junior member activities and our new Junior Member Ambassador program. This is the second time she has donated back her 50/50 raffle winnings as well as

bringing a gift certificate to be given away for the lodge raffle. **Thanks Beverly!**

## Sunshine News

Our Sunshine News features members who have suffered an accident, had a broken bone or a recent surgery. However, it takes someone special to keep a positive attitude when you have been diagnosed with a brain tumor. Louie Benedetti attended our August meeting with a part of his head shaved and stiches visibly noticeable on the side of his head. However, Louie has maintained his positive outlook, sense of humor and upbeat attitude while going through numerous doctor visits and treatments.



I'm sure he would enjoy a text of encouragement (559-827-1492) or an email at [louis.benedetti@yahoo.com](mailto:louis.benedetti@yahoo.com) to wish him all the best with his treatment and rapid recovery from his health issue. Louis is the father of three of our lodge queens and a 43-year member of the lodge.



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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 Chiaramonte (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)
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## September Meeting Monday

September 11, 2023  
Dinner at 6 p.m.

If you plan to attend:  
RSVP

Email- [larrydutto@yahoo.com](mailto:larrydutto@yahoo.com)

Text- 559-901-4683

Call-559-901-4683

By Friday-September 9th



The Albert Berra Family  
Are our dinner hosts!

# Junior Members Rock!



**Austin Gentry** served as president for the meeting.



**Giada Pitigliano** served as orator for the meeting.



**Adelyn Watkins** served as recording secretary.



**Isabelle Perry** as Financial Secretary



**Taylor Dutto** as Vice President



**Giulia Watkins** as Chaplain



