



# Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

December-2019

## Quiet Leadership!

Roma Lodge members enjoyed another wonderful polenta and stew dinner at the November meeting. I often hear that the millennial generation is too busy to attend lodge meeting. Heck, I'm retired and I'm too busy to attend meetings.

Busy has nothing to do with it. Attend a lodge meeting and you will find the busiest people you know attending the meetings.

**Michael DePaoli** is about as busy as anyone. He farms, raises three young daughters along with wife **Leslie**, who teaches fulltime, and still finds time to make the stew, cook the polenta and chair the farm show booth. The **DePaoli** family once again stepped up with **Melissa** getting the bread, **Giovanna** decorating the tables and **David** assisting in the kitchen.

**It's not about busy, it's about commitment.** Commitment to the lodge begins with being a member who shows leadership by taking on dinner duties for a meeting, chairing an event, becoming an officer or trustee and at minimum attending meetings.

We will conclude this year with a great Christmas party chaired by **Ken Curti** and **Cathy Mederos**. Let's all thank those families who have volunteered to cook great meals for our lodge meetings. We have had great attendance, great food and demonstrated what a local lodge is all about. **Fraternity!**

The upcoming year will give all lodge members an opportunity to renew their commitment to Roma Lodge as we celebrate our 90th Anniversary!



*Michael DePaoli  
along with daughter  
Haydyn*



**Pam Sola** continues to do a great job with our junior members having an activity at each meeting for those who attend. At the November meeting she had them make Thanksgiving masks they could wear at their family holiday gatherings. Pam serves the lodge in two capacities as the Financial Secretary and coordinates junior member activities ensuring the future of the lodge is in good hands.

*Christmas Party & Meeting  
December 8th  
Mark Your Calendar  
Noon*



# We Are All In The Same Boat!

President's Message

When it comes to being members of local lodges of the Order of Sons and Daughters of Italy we are like **Christopher Columbus, all in the same boat!**



I had the opportunity to attend the Hanford Lodge meeting with president **Louise Si-lacci** leading a well organized, efficient and informative meeting. The food was

great with a potluck and the lodge supplied a turkey with all the trimmings.

Like Roma Lodge, Hanford Lodge faces the same obstacles all local lodges face. An aging membership, younger members too busy to attend lodge meetings and activities along with difficulty in recruiting new members into the organization.



Like Columbus we all face obstacles in getting people to have faith, get on board and sail toward a common goal of carrying on the Italian Culture! We don't have a membership chair so it is important that all of us recruit new members into local lodges.

If we all market the tenets of the organization **Liberty-Equality-Fraternity** we should be able to find those of Italian ancestry who would like to join local lodges.

Lodge membership should not be a burden but a benefit. Hanford Lodge, like Roma emphasizes **Fraternity** by having a great meal, short business meeting and fun activities for those who attend. ***We find ourselves all in the same boat, let's work together to ensure we can safely sail to our destination without sinking. It takes all of us rowing together in the same direction to succeed!***

Each year the month of December and the Holiday Season brings about past memories and our attention is focused on the upcoming year. My visits to the Hanford Lodge brought back memories of the old days when **Lilia and Don Giacomazzi** were so instrumental in the activities of the lodge.



With Lilia, as our State Deputy, she ensured that lodge meetings were conducted according to ritual and protocol and her notes and remarks were always impeccable and precise. She symbolized what the Order was founded upon in the 1920's and like Hanford who just celebrated

their 90th anniversary and Roma Lodge, which will celebrate its 90th in 2020. Both organizations have a long history of success.

Unfortunately, many local lodges have declining membership and enticing new members to join is difficult. It is said, ***"if you do what you have always done, you will be what you have always been"*** as lodge members we need to keep reinventing ourselves to make our organization more viable and one in which people want to become a part of in the future.

I could not forget to mention the selling of the **Giacomazzi Dairy** after 125 years of existence. As shown at right is our State Deputy, **Jackie Giacomazzi**, bidding farewell



to some of the herd that were leaving to new homes. In 1930 there were 1,100 herds in Tulare County and that number has decline to less than 200. The economics of the dairy industry continues its ups and downs, less and less fluid milk consumed, more competition from other products, increased labor costs and the potential of less water makes the future uncertain. With each dairy that goes by the way-side we must always remember these decisions are difficult for families to make, especially when they have been in the business for over 125 years.



## Kitchen Help!

**Dominic and Josh Pitigliano** along with **David DePaoli and Matt Watkins** help with the polenta and stew preparation for the November meeting.

## Sunshine News!



Get well wishes go to **Ronnie Pedroncelli** who is comforted by grandson **Camden Taylor** after hip surgery to replace a broken hip. Ronnie is currently in rehab and hopes to be home soon. **Lena Briano** continues to

recover at home after a lengthy stay in the hospital and rehab facilities.

## Christmas Party Helpers Needed!

**Cathy Mederos and Ken Curti**

have graciously accepted chairmanship of the Roma Lodge Christmas party. Organizing and putting on the luncheon and other activities takes a lot of preparation and planning.

Cathy will need a great deal of help in putting on the event. If you can help with cooking, decorations, getting supplies, setup or anything else give her a call at **687-1112** to see how you can help.

**Those wishing to help cook should plan on**



**arriving at 10:30 a.m., table decorators at 11:00 a.m. and servers at 12:00 p.m. The meeting will be at 12:00 and lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m.**

## Bring Your Items for the Lighthouse Rescue Mission on December 8th!

The **Lighthouse Rescue Mission** needs for the pantry - Rice-A Roni, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce mix, corn bread mix, top ramen, Mac and cheese, sugar, flour, Bisquick, hamburger helper, any canned food - in other words non perishable items. These can be big box items from Smart and Final or Costco.

They can also use cleaning items such as - paper towels, brooms, mops, cleaning products. Personal items like shampoo, lice shampoo, soap (laundry, dish, or bathing), diapers any size, burp pads, coloring books, puzzles, pencils. They can always use money donations as well.

We have invited a few of the Rescue Mission representatives to join us for lunch and pickup the items that have been donated. The Lighthouse Rescue Mission is a non-profit organization located in Tulare that assists those in need of food and shelter on a temporary basis.

To learn more about the mission you can go to their website at <http://www.lighthouserescue.org/menu/>



Remember our Christmas lunch is free for members and all children and only \$10 for guests. **Each family is asked to bring a pie, cookies or other dessert.**

**Pam Sola**, will be conducting the talent portion of the program. Have your junior members who would like to perform come prepared to participate. She will organize a group performance which will be done during the luncheon. If you have questions, contact **Pam at 901-1781**.



**If you have information you would like to share in the LeNotizie please send it, along with photos, to [larrydutto@yahoo.com](mailto:larrydutto@yahoo.com) by the 20th of each month.**



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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	Anthony Chiamonte (217-4055)
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)

### Christmas Party

## December 8, 2019

Meeting @ 12:30

## Ken Curti & Cathy Mederos Chairs

